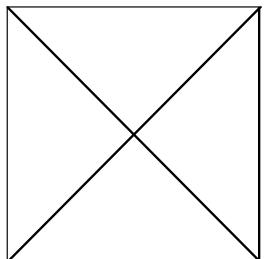


Applied  
**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY**  
for  
Pediatrician  
**Basic Principles of ECG**



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*Mansoura University Children's Hospital*

PART : I

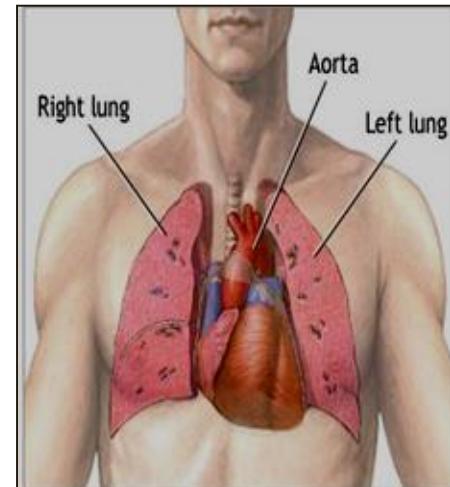
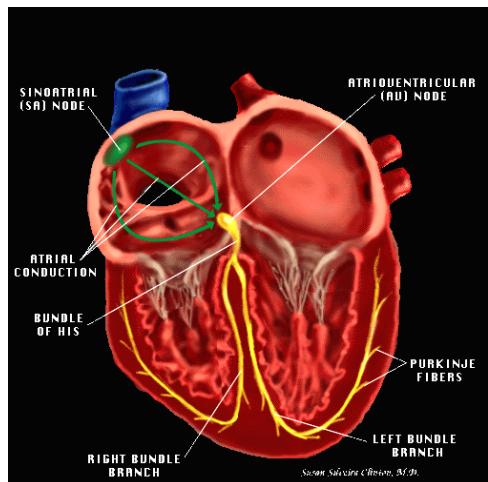
# The 5 Requirements for Effective Pumping Action of the Heart:

1. The contractions of individual cardiac muscle cells must occur at regular intervals(*sequential*) and synchronized (*not arrhythmic*).
2. The valves must be open fully (*not stenotic*).
3. The valves must not leak(*not insufficient or regurgitant*)
4. The muscles contractions must be forceful (*not failing*).
5. The ventricles must fill adequately during diastole (*no restriction on filling, normal compliance*).

# Learning objectives:

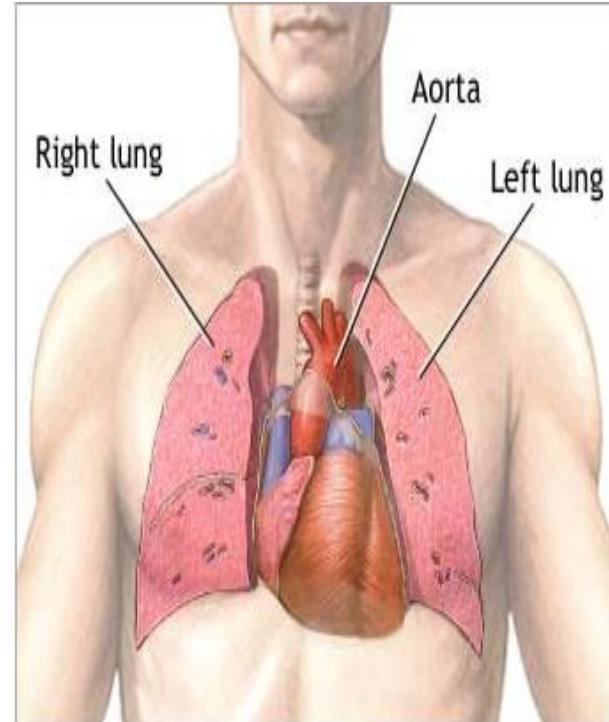
- Cardiac anatomy: cardiac chambers
- Cardiac electrophysiology: conduction system
- Basic principles of the 12-lead ECG.

# CARDIOVASCULAR ANATOMY AND ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

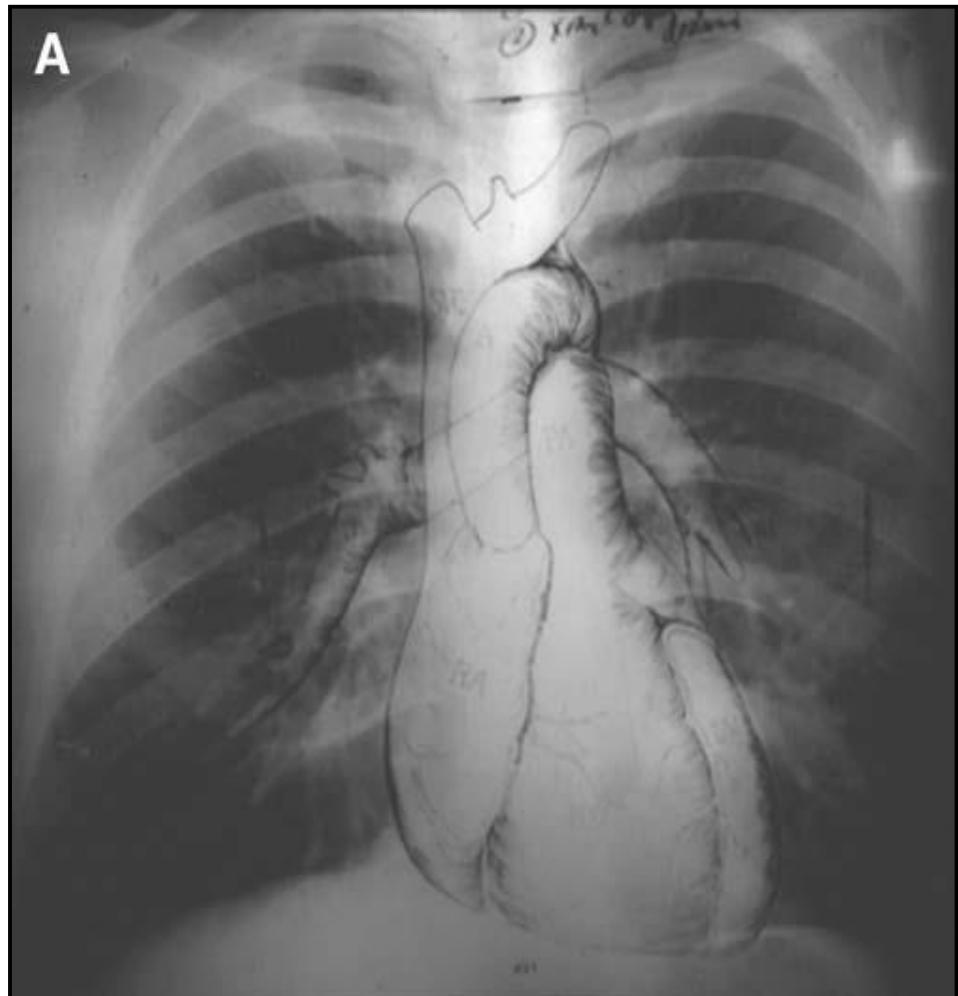
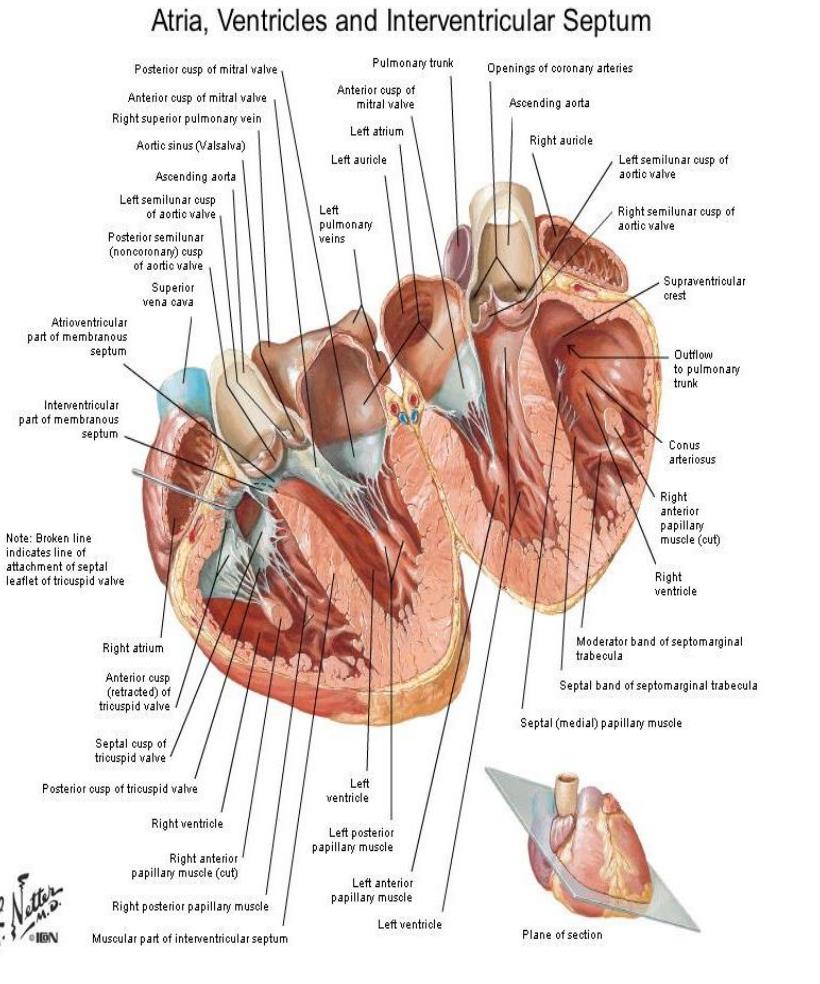


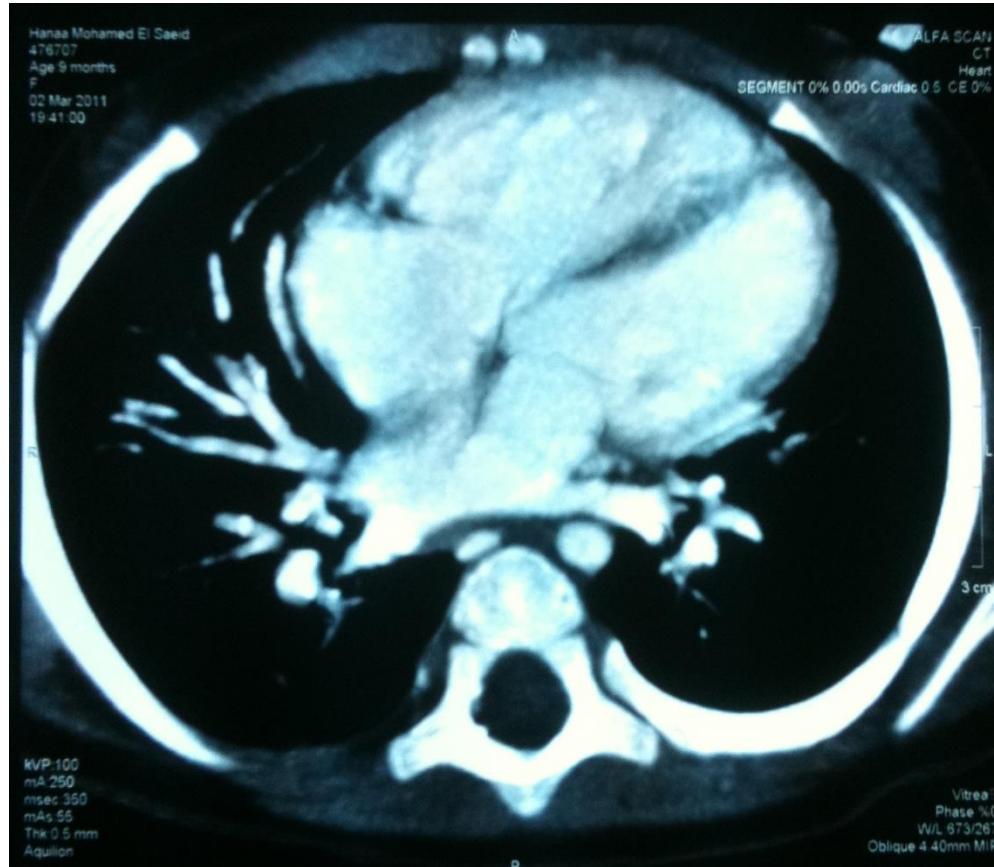
# Anatomy of The Heart

- The apex of the heart is formed by the left ventricle.
- The sternocostal surface of the heart is formed, from right to left, by the right atrium, right ventricle, and left ventricle.
- The diaphragmatic surface of the heart is formed by the right and left ventricles.

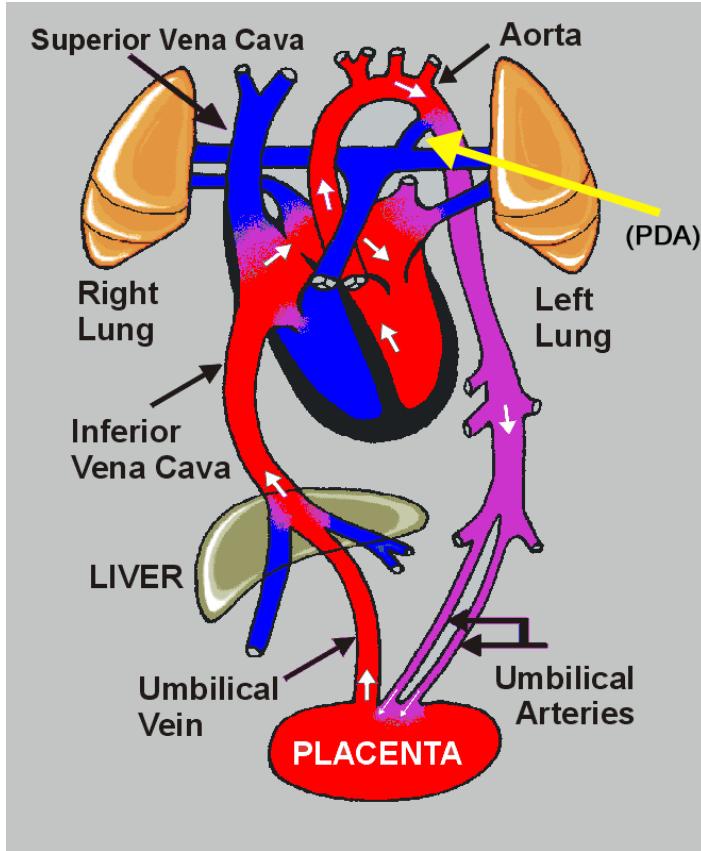


# Anatomy of The Heart

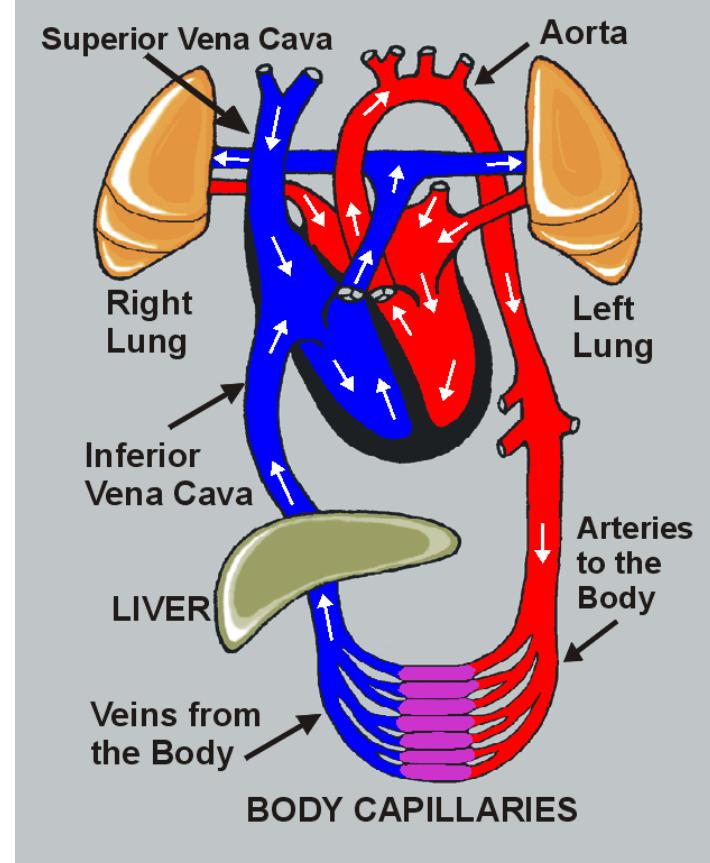




# Fetal versus Post-Natal Circulation

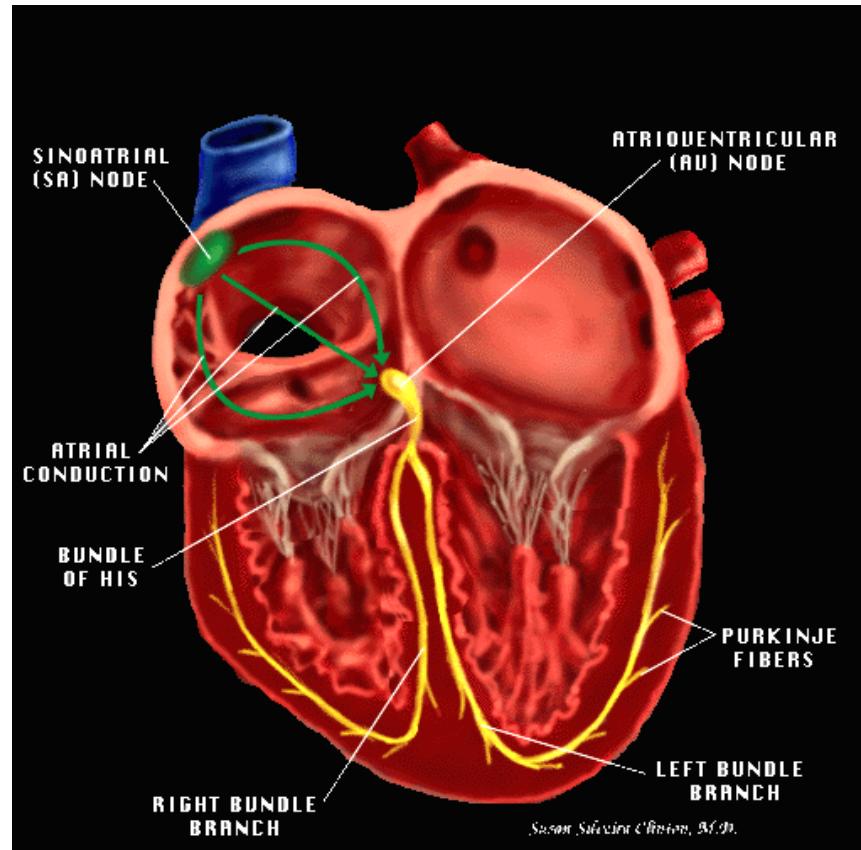


Fetal Circulation



Post-Natal Circulation

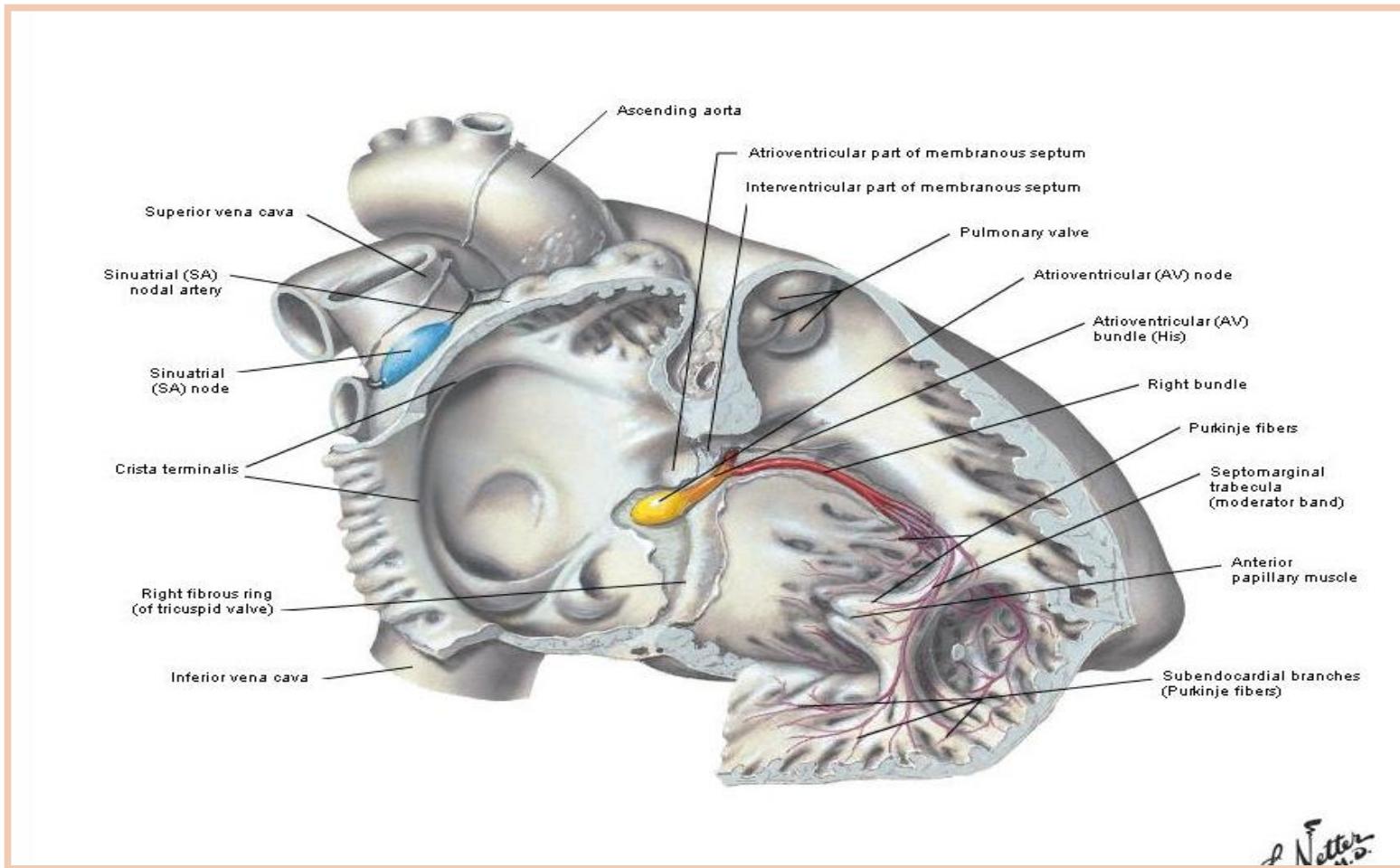
# Anatomy of Conduction System



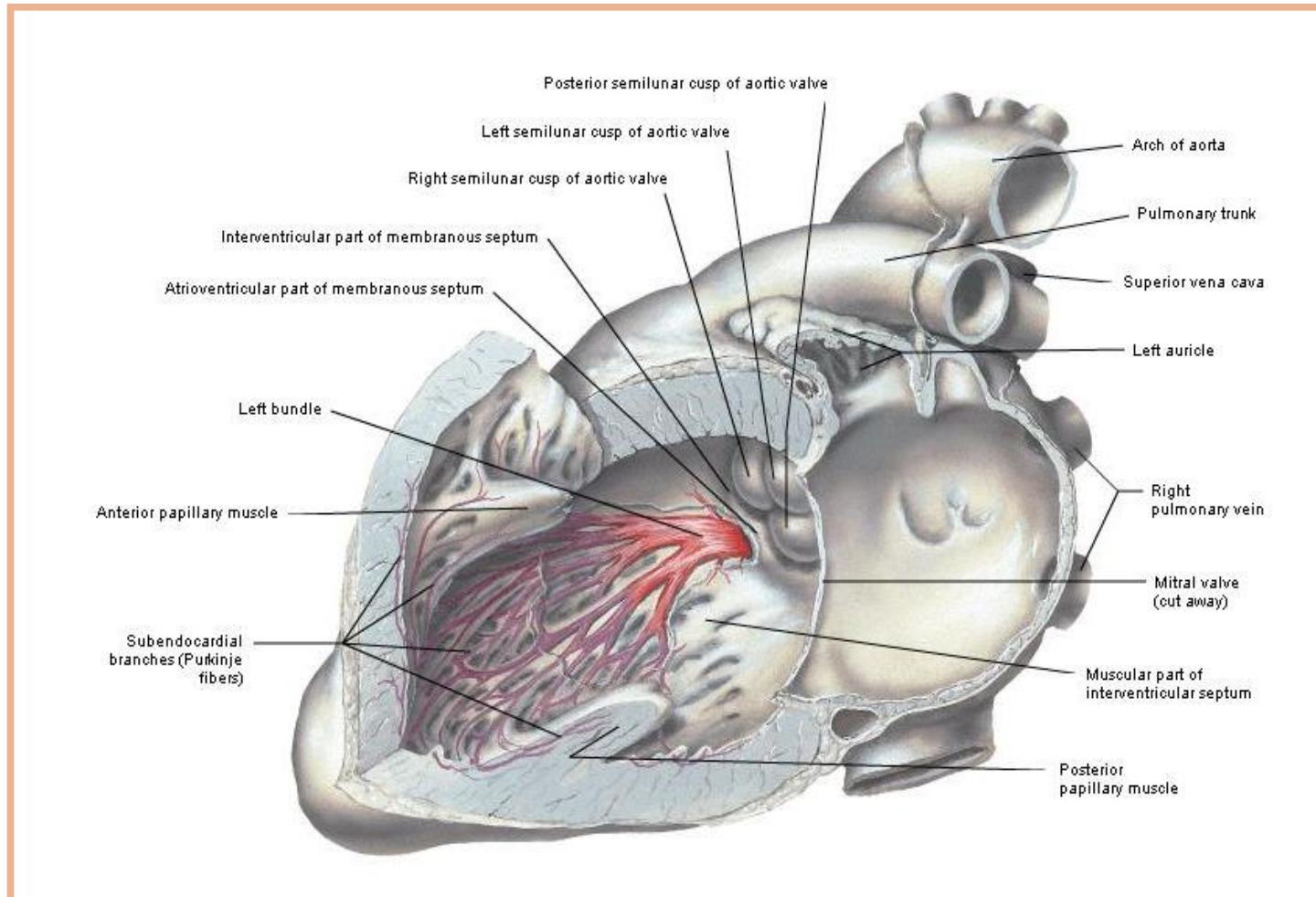
# The Definitions of ECG:

- Electrocardiogram (ECG) is the *graphical record* produced by an electrocardiograph .
- Electrocardiograph is the *machine* that records the electrical activity of the heart over time.

# Conducting system :Right side



# Conducting System :left side



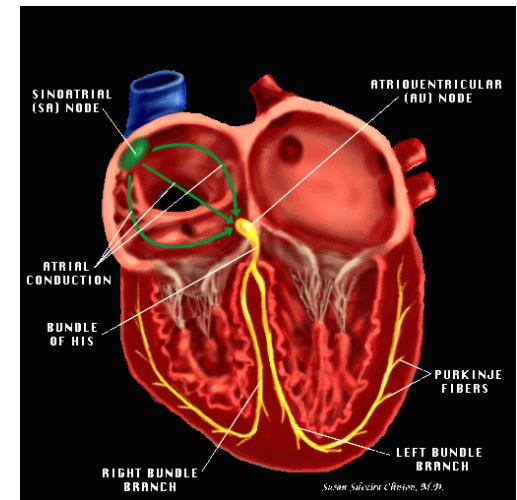
A well-functioning electrical system is vital for adequate cardiac performance :

- Heart rate regulation :

- inherited automaticity and autonomic variability).

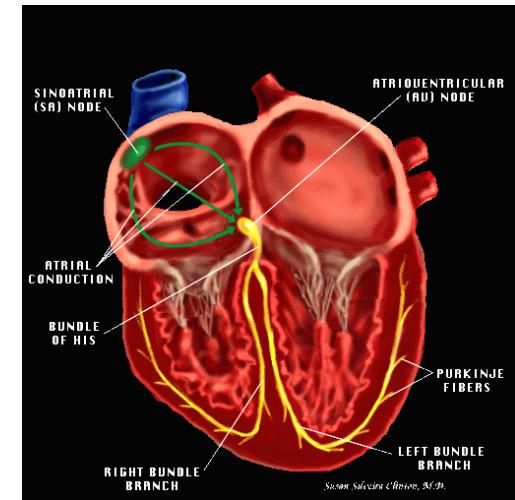
- Sequence of muscle contraction:

- Atrial systole.
- A delay .
- Ventricular systole (Apex to base, interior to exterior myocardium)



# Localized Variations in the Heart's Electrical System :

- SAN and AVN are richly supplied by sympathetic and Parasympathetic fibers .
- Rest of the heart's electrical system (have abundant sympathetic Innervations and sparse parasympathetic Innervations.



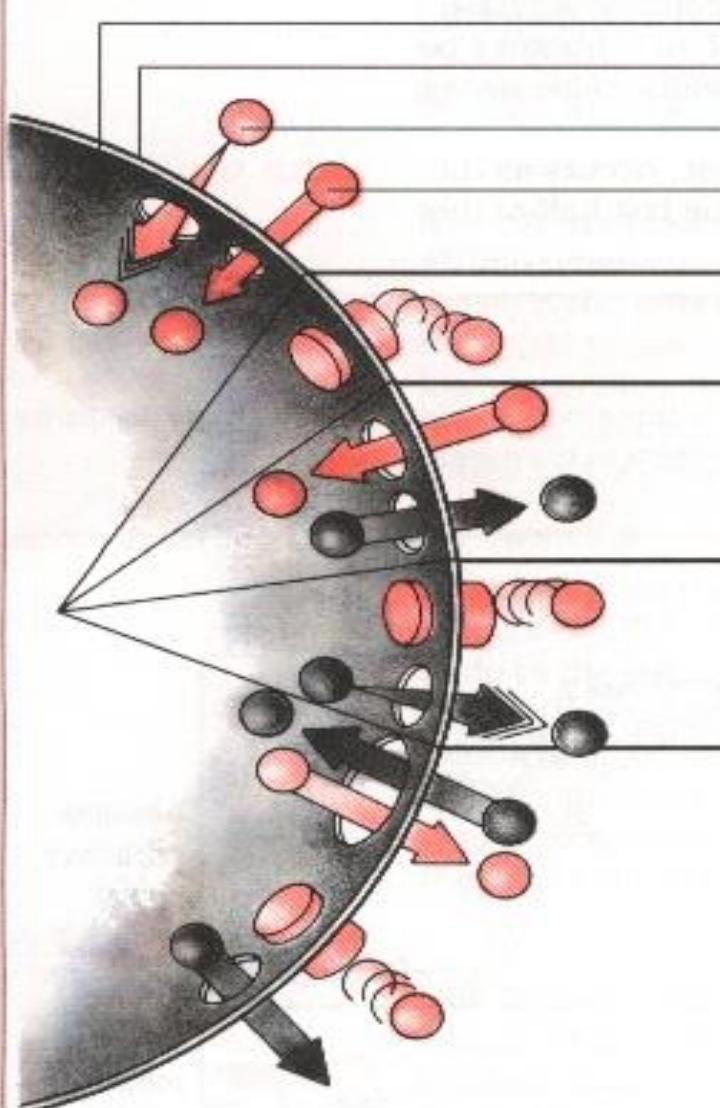
# Cardiac Action Potential

- The electrical activity of an individual cardiac cell.
- The electrical impulse of the heart is the summation of thousands of tiny electrical currents generated by thousands of individual cardiac cells .

- Depolarization: Phase O
- Repolarization: Phases 1-3
- Resting phase: Phase 4

# Depolarization-repolarization cycle

Use this illustration to review the five phases of the depolarization-repolarization cycle.



Cell

Cell membrane

Sodium

Calcium

## Phase 0: Rapid depolarization

- Sodium moves rapidly into the cell.
- Calcium moves slowly into the cell.

## Phase 1: Early repolarization

- Sodium channels close.

## Phase 2: Plateau phase

- Calcium continues to flow in.
- Potassium flows out of the cell.

## Phase 3: Rapid repolarization

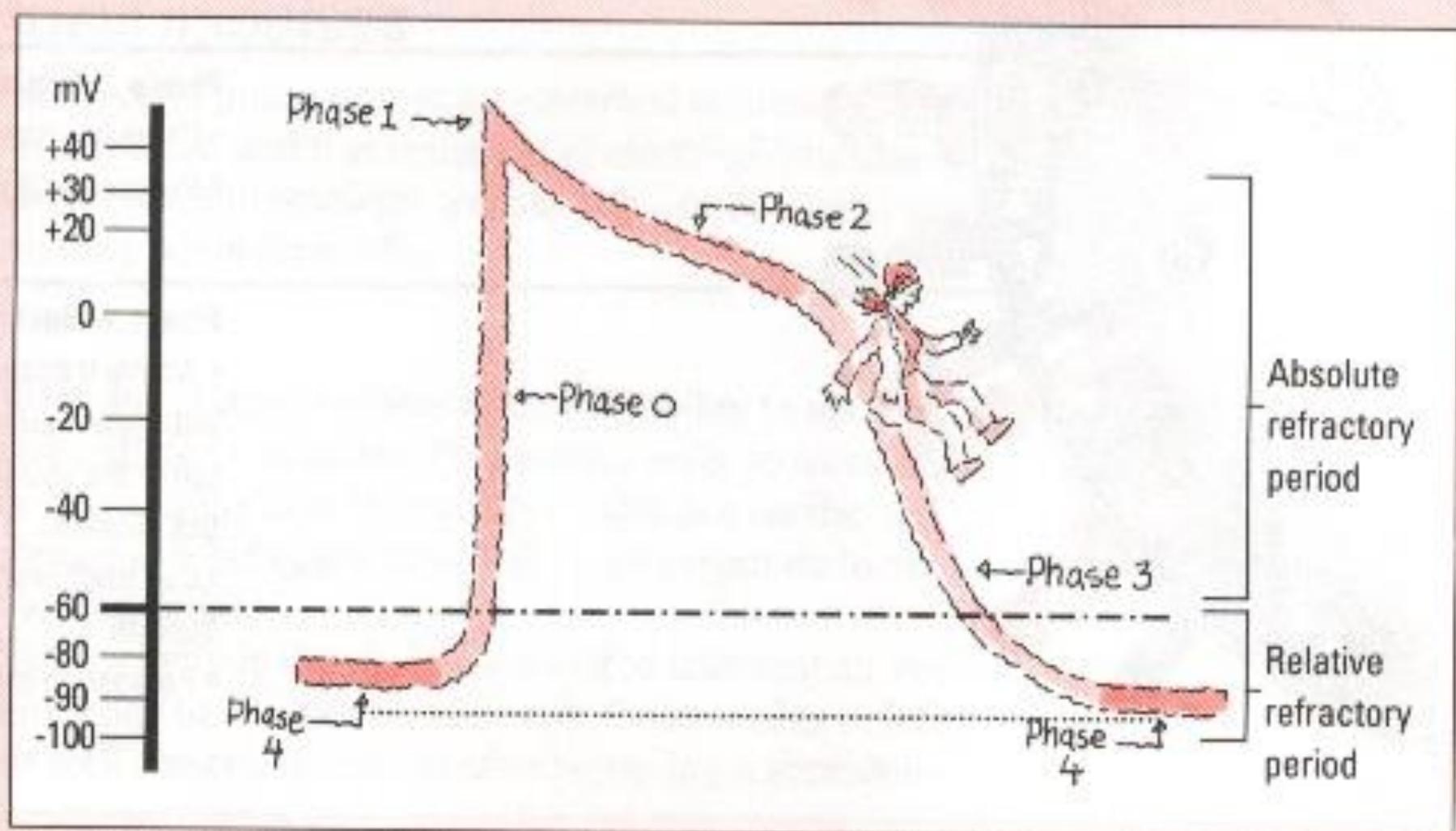
- Calcium channels close.
- Potassium flows out rapidly.

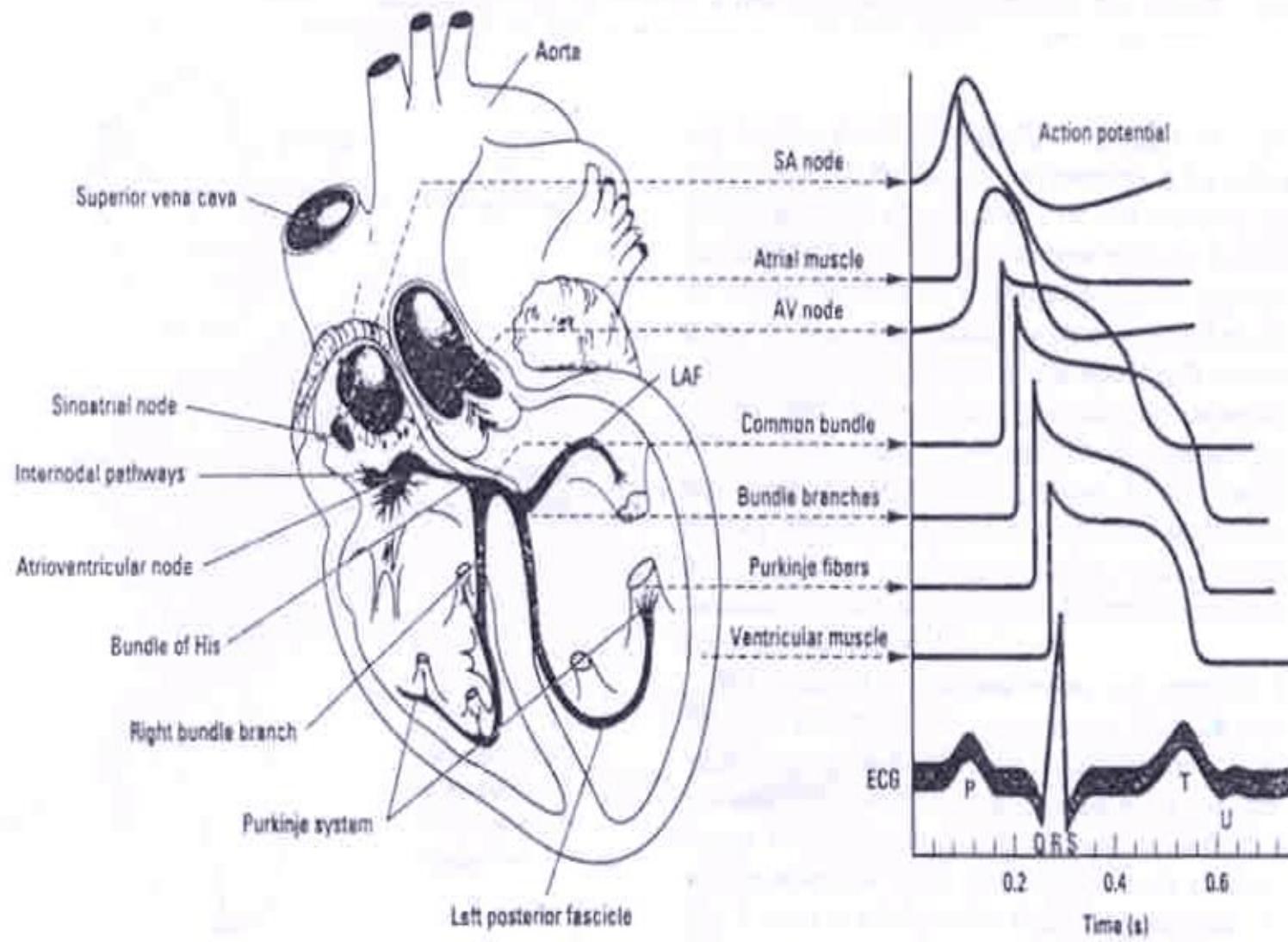
## Phase 4: Resting phase

- Active transport through the sodium-potassium pump begins restoring potassium to the inside of the cell and sodium to the outside.
- Cell membrane becomes impermeable to sodium.
- Potassium may move out of the cell.

# Action potential curve

An action potential curve shows the electrical changes in a myocardial cell during the depolarization-repolarization cycle. This graph shows the changes in a nonpacemaker cell.





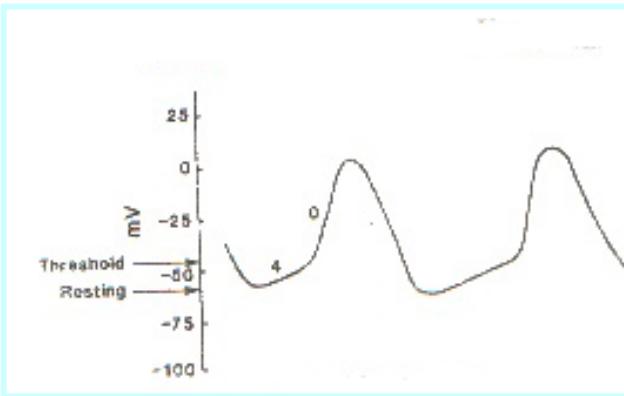
# Localized Variations in the Heart's Electrical System: autonomic innervations

- Sympathetic tone:
  - Enhance automaticity (rapid firing).
  - Increase conductive velocity.
  - Decrease refractory period
  
- Parasympathetic tone:
  - Depress automaticity (slow firing).
  - Decrease conductive velocity.
  - Increase refractory period

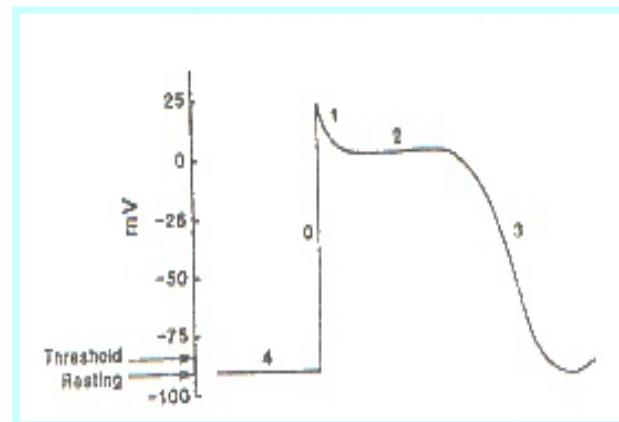
# Localized Variations in the Heart's Electrical System : slow versus fast

SA node  
AV node

Atrial myocytes  
HIS-Purkinje cells  
Ventricular myocytes



Slow-Response or Calcium-Channel Action Potential

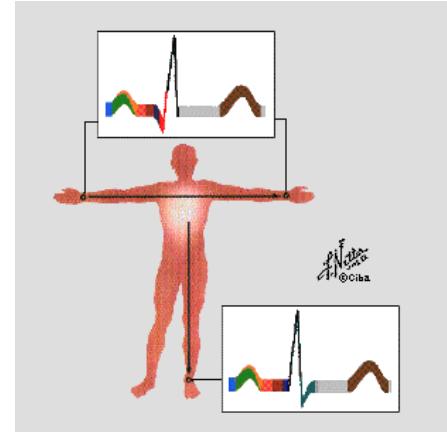


Fast-Response or Sodium-Channel Action Potential

# Relationship Between Action Potential and Surface ECG

- The surface ECG reflects the electrical activity of the entire heart.
- *Depolarization phase of atria and ventricles:*
  - Instantaneous and occurs sequentially from cell to cell (P and QRS) and of relatively short duration and yield directional and specific information.
- *Repolarization phase of atria and ventricles:*
  - Not instantaneous, and occurs simultaneously (ST and T) and of relatively long duration with little directional and non specific information

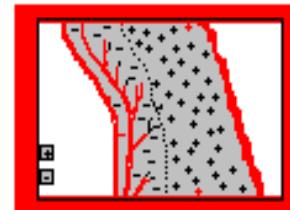
# Basic Principles of Electrocardiography



# The Cellular Basis of ECG

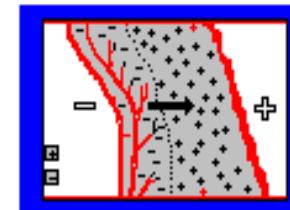
1.

Electrical potentials are produced in the heart as the sum of minute amounts of electricity generated by individual cardiac muscle cells during depolarization and repolarization.



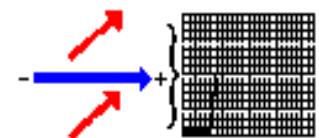
2.

At any given instant, the sum of these electrical currents will have a particular direction and magnitude. The sum of these currents forms the resultant vector that produces the deflection in the electrocardiograph stylus.



3.

The relative strength of deflection is dependent on the magnitude and the angle the vector forms with the ECG lead. Thus, different leads will pick up different components of the resultant vector depending on their orientation.



# The cellular basis of ECG

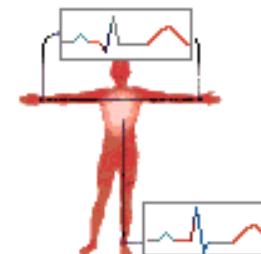
4.

Lead placement and their axes:  
because of their placement, each of  
the ECG leads "sees" the ECG  
signal from a different angle.



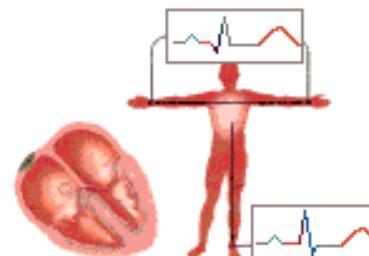
5.

Seeing the development of ECG  
traces as the wave of depolarization  
traverses the heart.



6.

The normal sequence of  
depolarization and repolarization  
and corresponding vector axes.



# Current Path in the cardiac muscle

## Endocardium:

The endocardium is the first part of the ventricular wall to receive the stimulation from the Purkinje system.

## Purkinje Fibers:

The Purkinje fibers innervate the myocardial muscle fibers and thus relay the action potential from the bundle branches to the myocardium. This begins a uniform spread of muscle activation (depolarization) through the muscle

## Exterior:

The generated potential difference is propagated to the surface of the body through the tissues in contact with the heart.

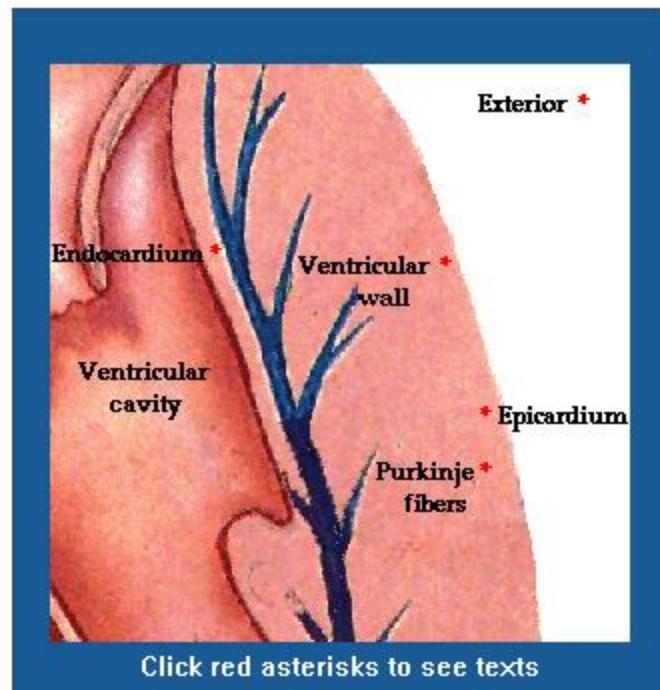
## Ventricular Wall:

The wave of depolarization moving through the muscle wall results in a potential difference between the positively charged region and the negatively charged region.

## Epicardium:

The epicardium is the last part of the ventricular wall to receive the depolarization stimulus.

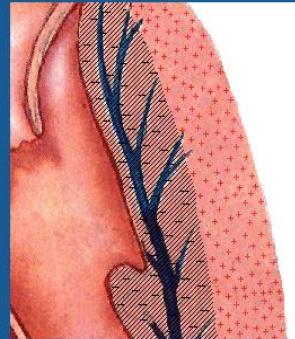
## Current Path in Cardiac Muscle



# The cellular basis of ECG

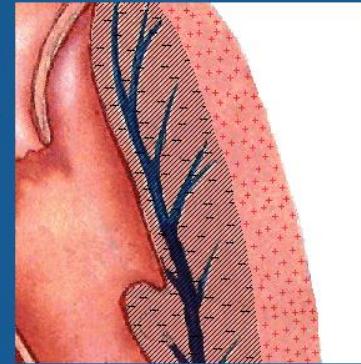
Wave of Depolarization

The resting state is  
Polarized



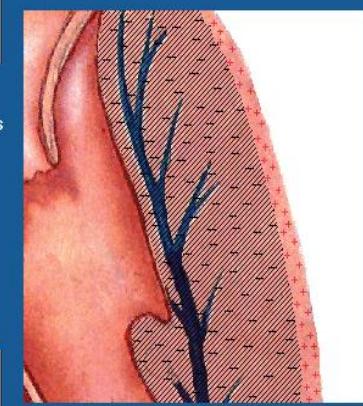
Wave of Depolarization

The resting state is  
Polarized



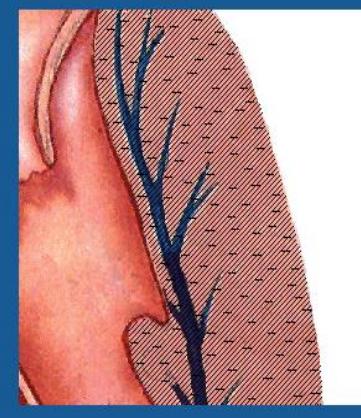
Wave of Depolarization

The resting state is  
Polarized



Wave of Depolarization

The resting state is  
Polarized

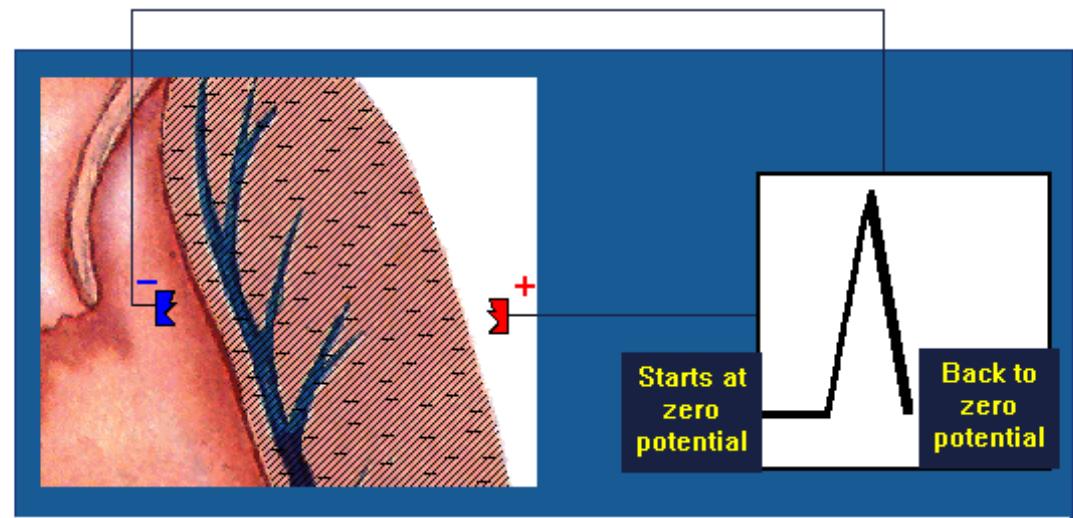
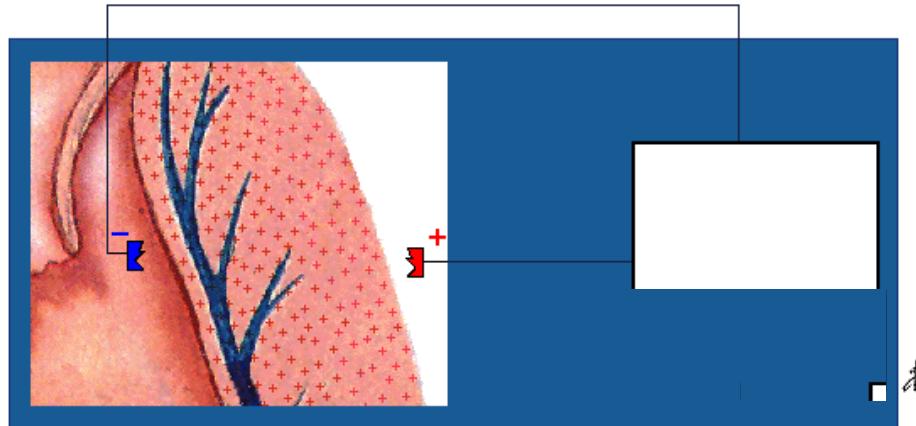


Mo

The new resting state is  
DEPOLARIZED  
Note how the entire myocardial wall is uniformly depolarized AFTER the wave of depolarization has occurred.

AN@OCH  
AN@OCH

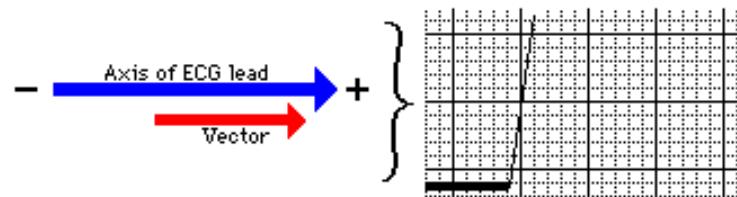
The wave of **depolarization** toward the positive electrode :**positive deflection**



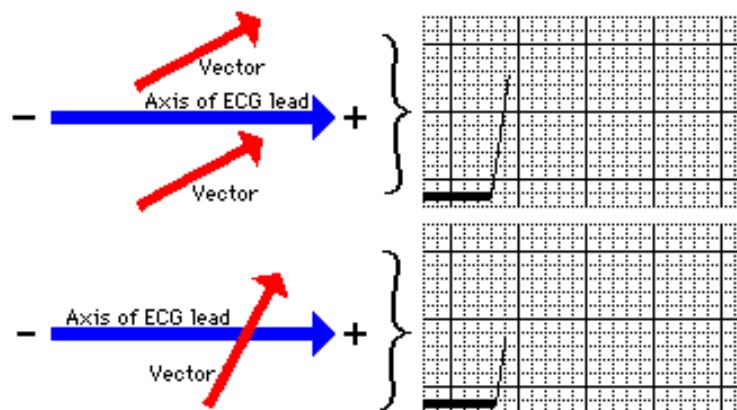
# The cellular basis of ECG

## Relationship of Current Flow to Lead Axis and Consequent ECG Deflection

If current flows in same direction as axis of lead, ECG stylus is deflected strongly upward from baseline in that lead.



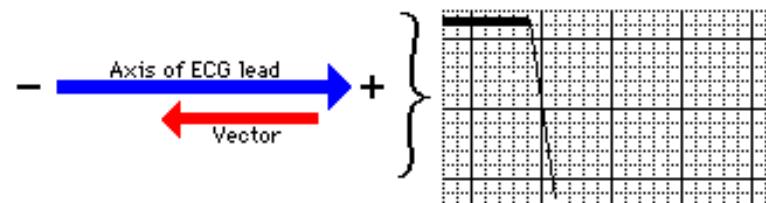
If current flows obliquely to axis of lead, stylus is deflected less strongly upward, its height varying with angle that vector of current makes with axis.



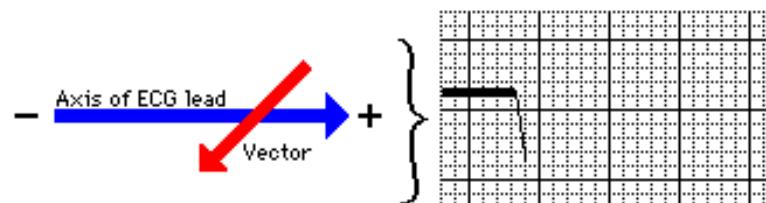
# The cellular basis of ECG

## Relationship of Current Flow to Lead Axis and Consequent ECG Deflection (cont.)

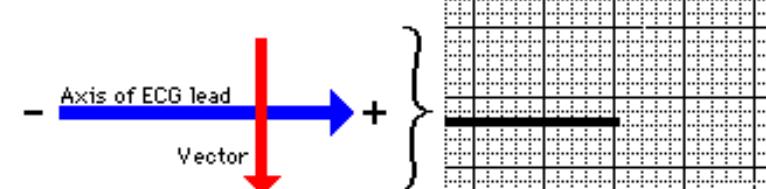
If current flow is in a direction opposite to the axis of the lead, the stylus is deflected strongly downward.



If current flows obliquely in a direction opposite to the axis of the lead, the stylus is deflected less strongly downward.



And, if current flow is perpendicular to the axis of the lead, there is no deflection, as if there were no current flow.



# Basic Steps for ECG Recording

1. Confirm the identity and age of the patient requiring an ECG.
2. Explain the procedure to the patient.
3. Offer the patient privacy.
4. Remove the patient's clothing to allow ECG recording while minimizing exposure and maintaining warmth.
5. Position the patient in the supine position if possible. Patients with severe respiratory compromise will not be able to lie in this position and may need to have an ECG performed while sitting or semi-recumbent.
6. Place the ECG electrodes in the correct position on the patient's chest and limbs. This may require drying of the skin.
7. Connect the labelled ECG leads to their corresponding electrodes.

# Basic Steps for ECG Recording

8. Turn on the ECG machine.
9. Press the 'filter' switch to 'on'.
10. Enter patient details including medication.
11. Advise the patient to relax and lie still.
12. Press the appropriate button on the machine to initiate recording, usually 'start' or 'auto'.
13. Review the printed ECG to confirm adequacy of the tracing and to identify the immediate life-threatening abnormalities .
14. If the ECG machine does not allow direct entry of patient details, these should be attached to the ECG as soon as the tracing is recorded.

# ECG Recording:

- The modern, standard **12-lead ECG** requires that **10 ECG leads** be attached to the patient's body. The leads are labelled to assist correct placement. These leads must be placed correctly to avoid obtaining a misleading ECG.
- The ECG leads should be placed as follows :
  1. LL: left leg, distally
  2. RL: right leg, distally
  3. LA: left arm, distally
  4. RA: right arm, distally
  5. V1: fourth intercostal space, to the right of the sternum
  6. V2: fourth intercostal space, to the left of the sternum
  7. V3: midway between V2 and V4
  8. V4: fifth left intercostal space, mid-clavicular line
  9. V5: at the horizontal level of V4, anterior axillary line .
  10. V6: at the horizontal level of V4 and V5, mid-axillary line.

# Accurate positioning of precordial leads

- Accurately locating the fourth intercostal space is important. One of the most common errors in recording an ECG is to place V1 and V2 too high, resulting in all V leads positioned at a higher level on the chest.
- The fourth intercostal space is found by undertaking these steps:
  - 1. Identify the sternal angle or 'angle of Louis' (the angle between the upper part of the sternum and the body of the sternum), where the manubrium meets the body of the sternum. Run your finger down the sternum from the sternal notch at the top, until you meet a bony horizontal ridge. This is the sternal angle.
  - 2. From this ridge, slide your finger down and to the side to locate the second intercostal space.
  - 3. Count down from this space to identify the third and fourth intercostal spaces.
  - 4- When recording an ECG from female patients, the convention is to place the lateral chest leads (V4, 5 and 6) beneath the breast, rather than over it.

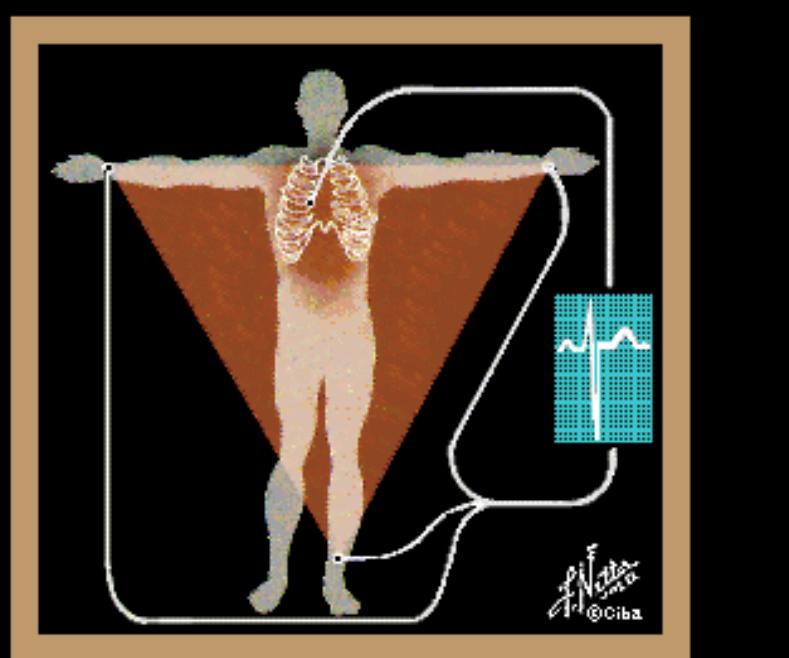
# Normal ECG

- A standard 12-lead ECG records these PQRST complexes in real time from different locations around the heart. Hence, every lead appears slightly different, while still containing a PQRST complex.
- Of the 12 leads, six are referred to as 'limb leads'. The limb leads are leads I, II, III, aVR, aVL and aVF. The other six are referred to as 'chest' or 'precordial' leads. These leads are V1, V2, V3, V4, V5 and V6.
- The limb leads record the electrical activity in the heart in the vertical /coronal plane.
- The chest leads record the electrical activity of the heart in the horizontal/ axial plane. Thus, different leads can be grouped together when looking for consistency of ECG appearances (normal or abnormal) for different parts of the heart.

# The ECG Lead placement

Since the human body is made up of tissues containing electrolytic fluids, the potential difference generated in the heart is conducted to the surface of the skin. Thus, leads placed in conventional locations on the surface of the body are sufficient to record the electrical activity occurring within the heart.

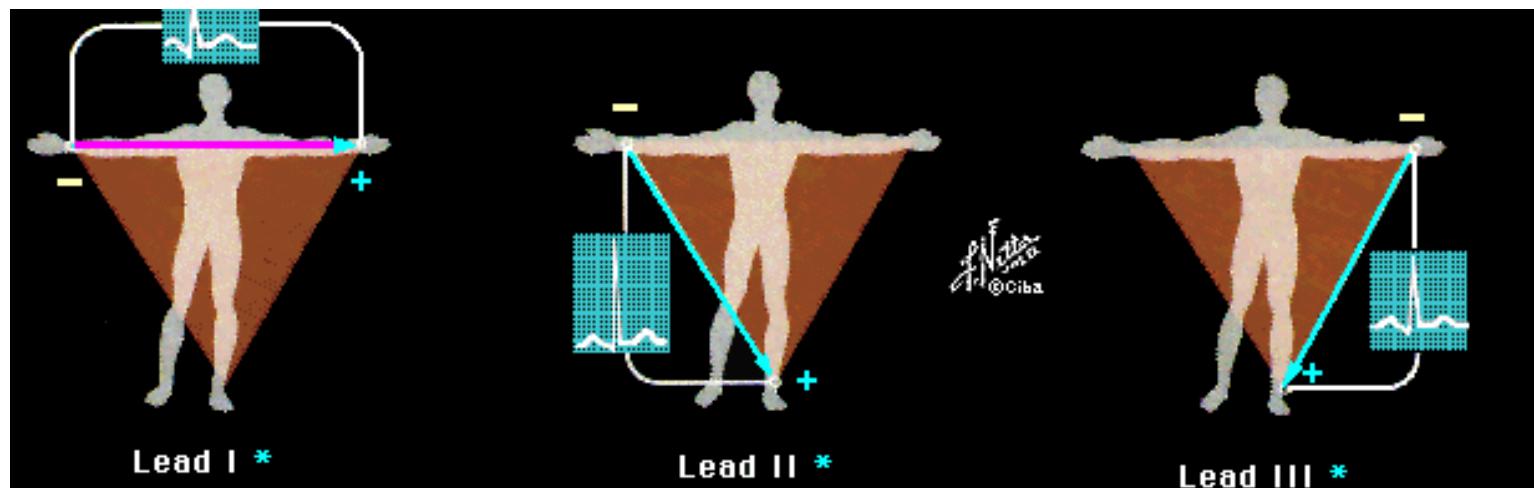
The electrocardiogram is a graphic representation of the electrical activity of the heart. This electrical activity is recorded from 12 different viewpoints by placing "leads" on the arms, legs, and chest.



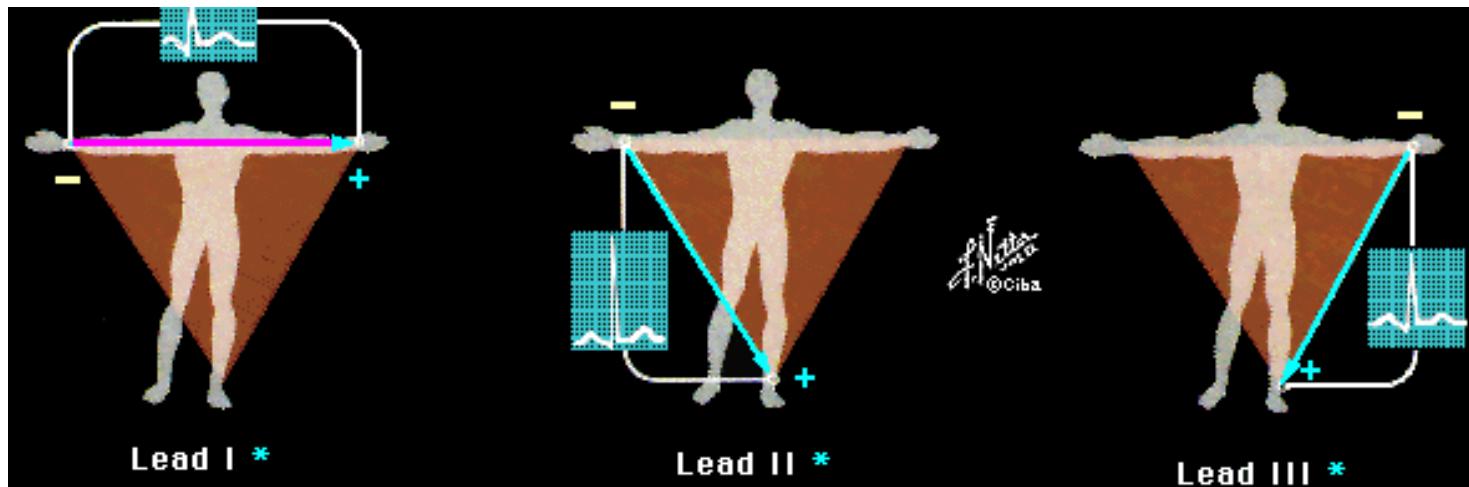
The following screens illustrate where these leads are placed to record the three bipolar limb leads, the three augmented (unipolar) limb leads, and the six chest leads.

## Bipolar Limb leads and their axes

These leads use two electrodes a positive + and a – negative to record the electrical potential difference in the frontal plane

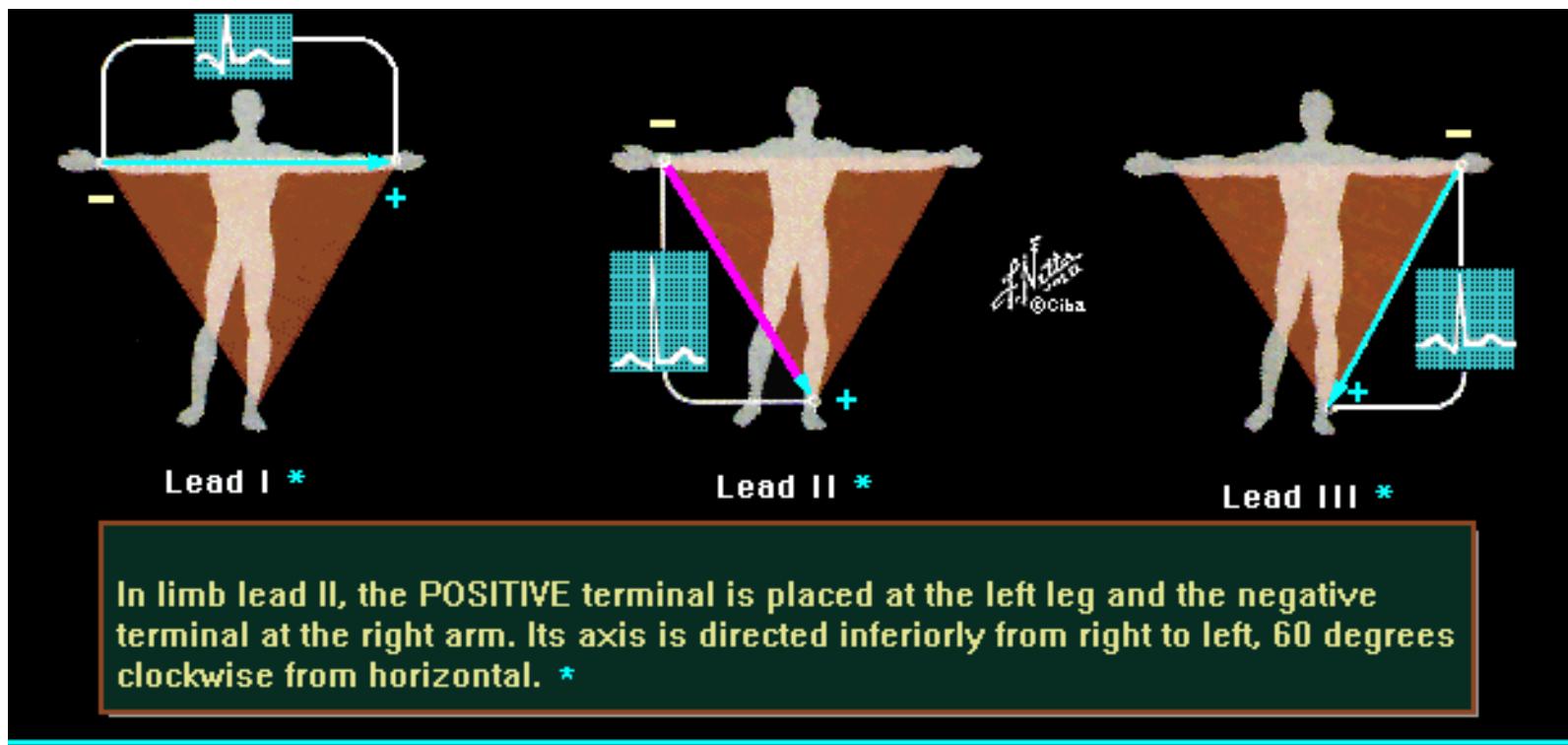


## Bipolar Limb leads :Lead I

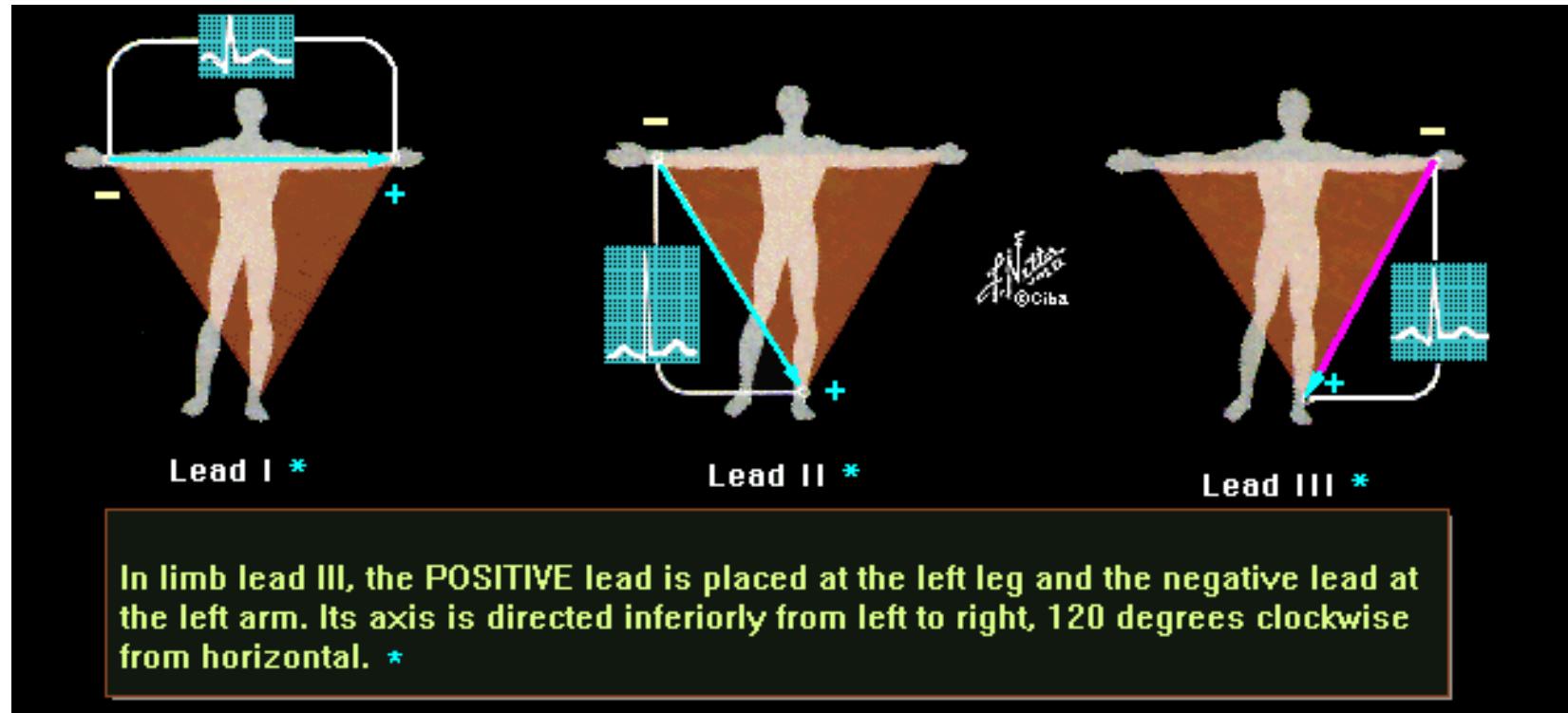


In limb lead I, the **POSITIVE** electrode is placed at the left arm and the negative electrode at the right arm. Its axis is directed from right to left, at zero degree from horizontal.

## Bipolar Limb leads :Lead II

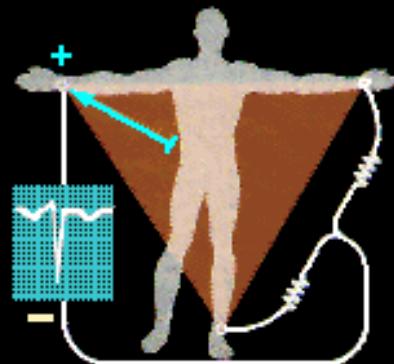


## Bipolar Limb leads :Lead III

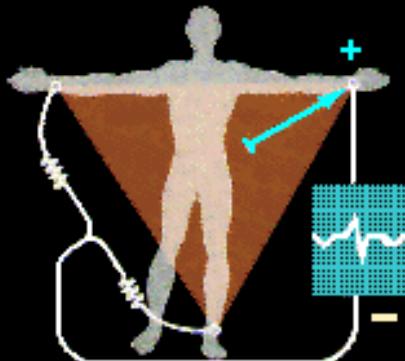


# Augmented unipolar limb leads and their axes

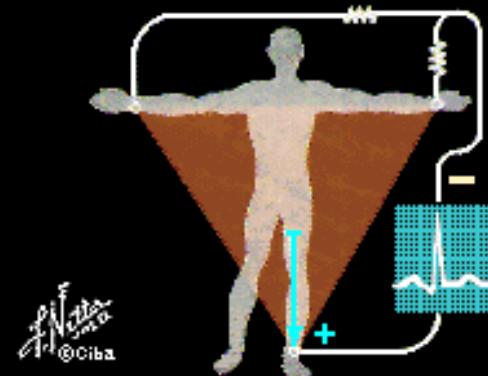
The leads shown below are called the augmented limb leads, which also record the electrical potential in the frontal plane. They are called unipolar leads, however, because the center of the heart is used as a reference point and the electrode (positive +) is placed on the limbs and used as the other point.



Lead aVR \*



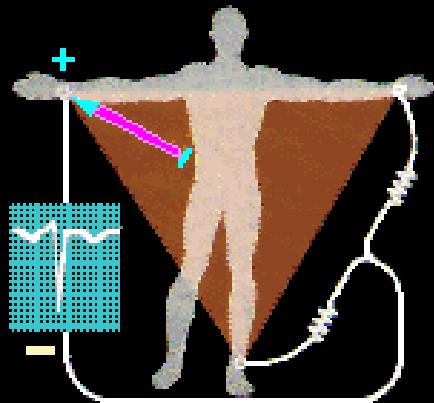
Lead aVL \*



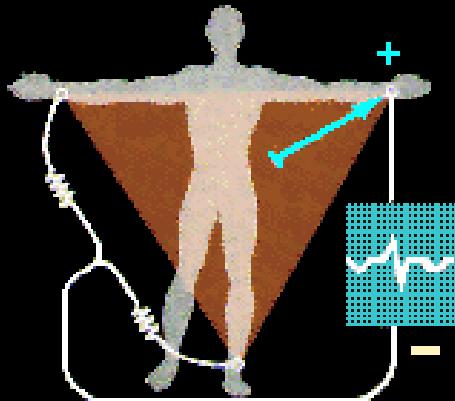
Lead aVF \*

In the augmented limb leads, one limb electrode is used for the positive electrode and the other two are joined to form a ground reference.

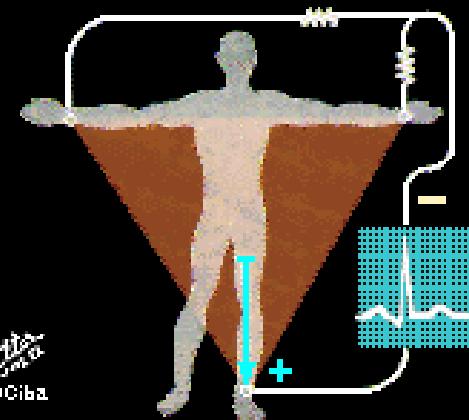
## Augmented unipolar limb leads :aVR



Lead aVR \*



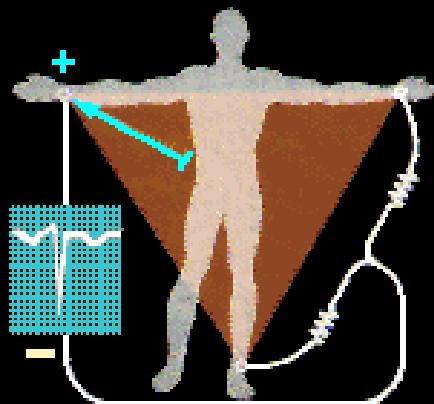
Lead aVL \*



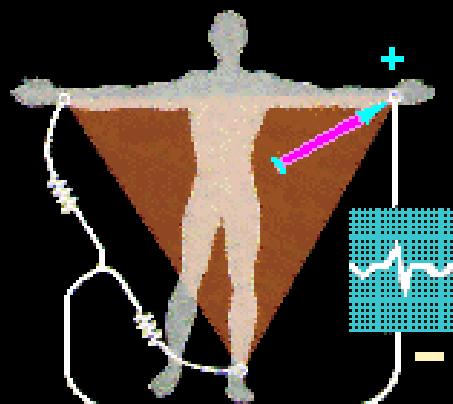
Lead aVF \*

Lead aVR is a unipolar limb lead with a positive terminal on the right arm. Its axis is directed upward and right, perpendicular to the lead III axis.\*

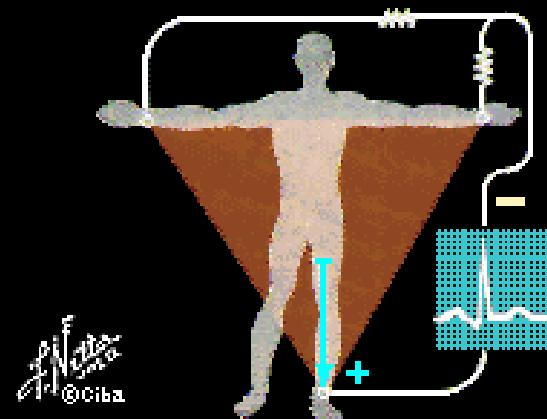
## Augmented unipolar limb leads :aVL



Lead aVR \*



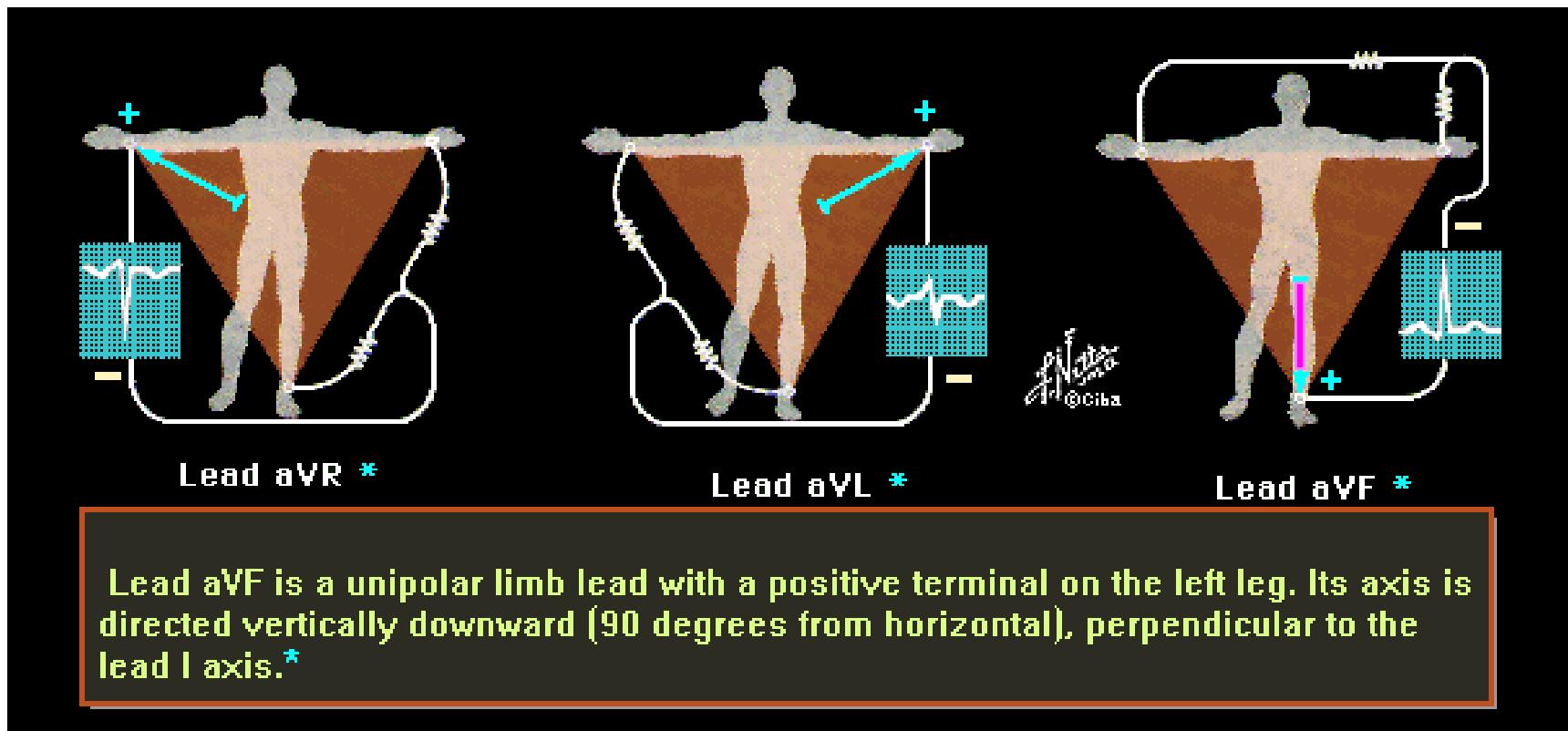
Lead aVL \*



Lead aVF \*

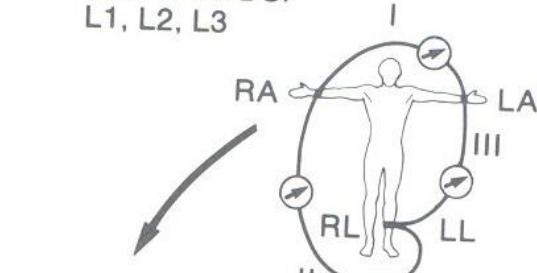
Lead aVL is a unipolar limb lead with a positive terminal on the left arm. Its axis is directed upward and left (at -30 degrees from horizontal), perpendicular to the lead II axis.

## Augmented unipolar limb leads :aVF

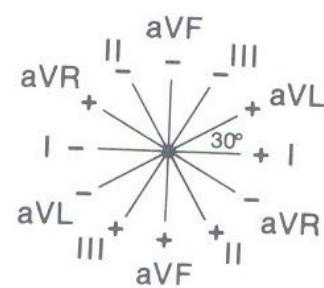
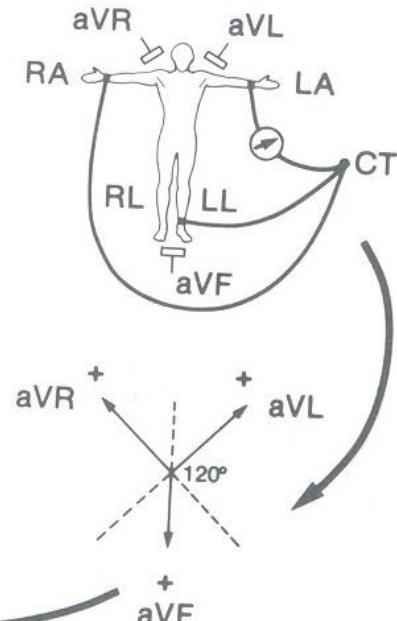


# The six Limb leads

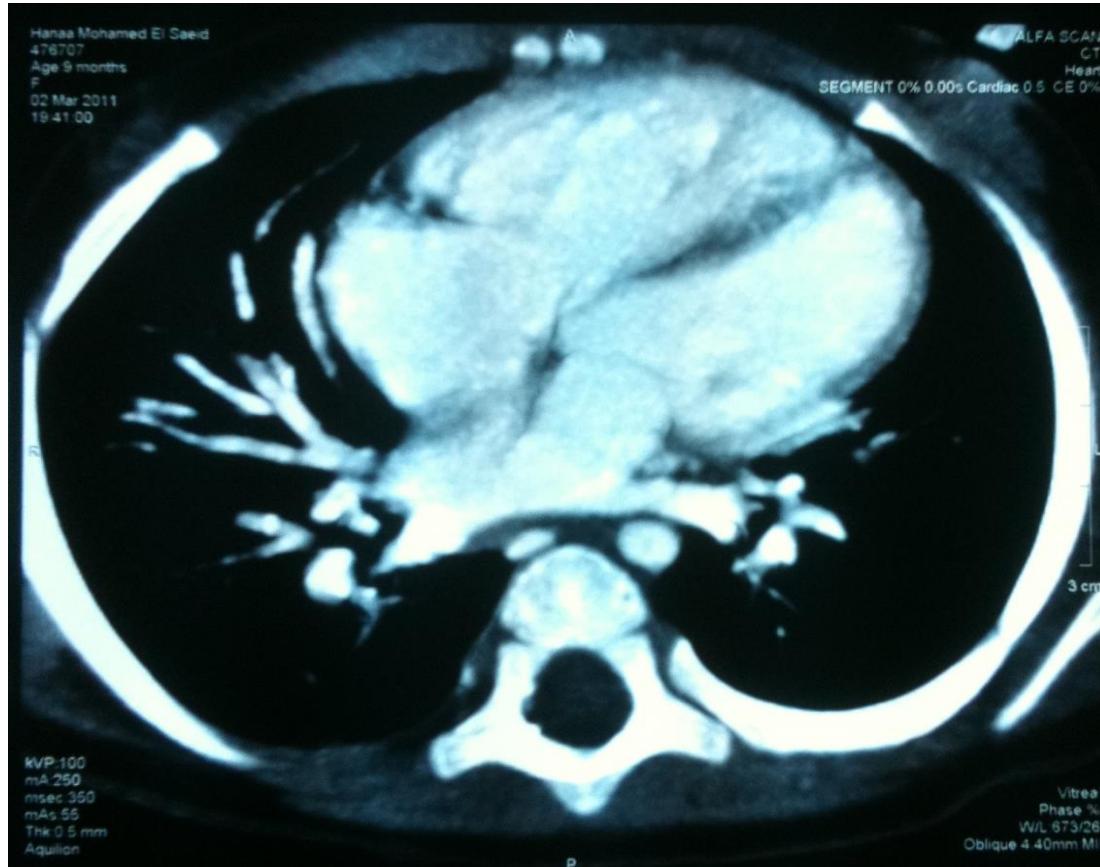
**1 BIPOLAR LIMB LEADS:  
L1, L2, L3**



**2 UNIPOLAR AUGMENTED LIMB LEADS:  
aVR, aVL, aVF**

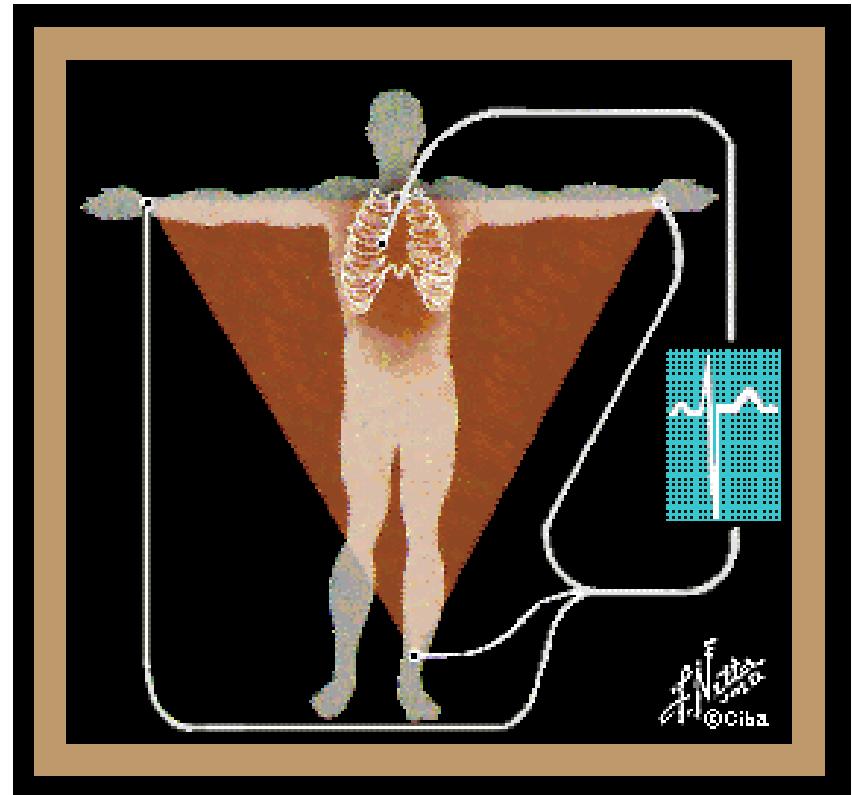
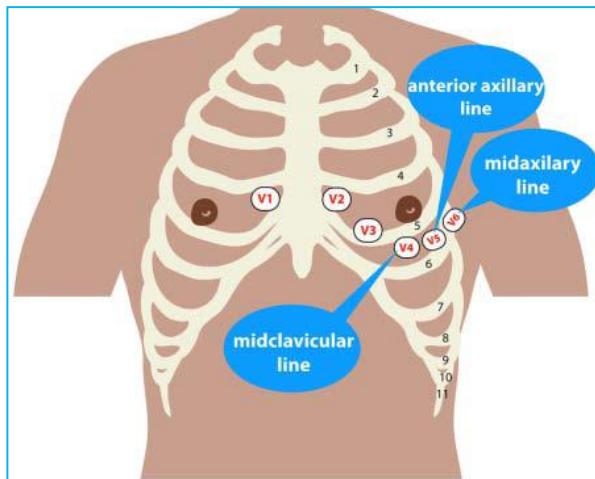


# The heart within the thoracic cage

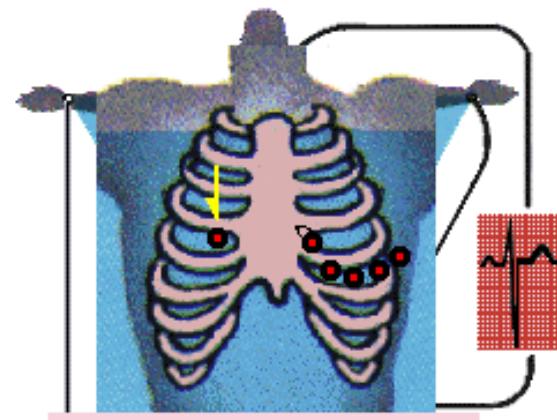
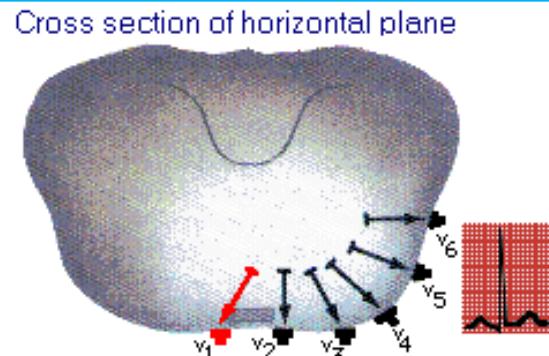


# Precordial leads :V1-V6

The positive electrode is placed on the chest wall and the negative pole is attached to the three limb leads

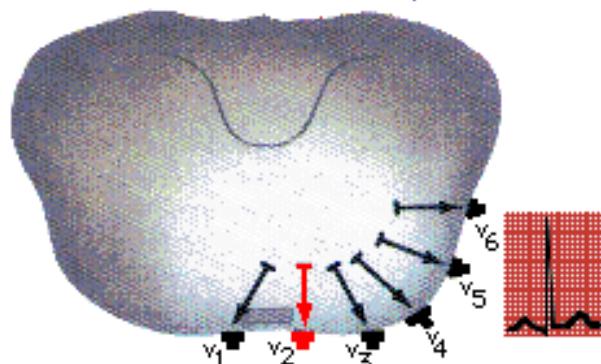


# Precordial leads :V1

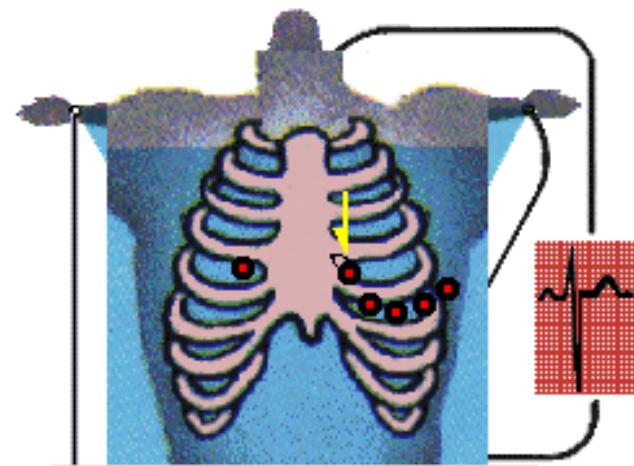


## Precordial leads :V2

Cross section of horizontal plane

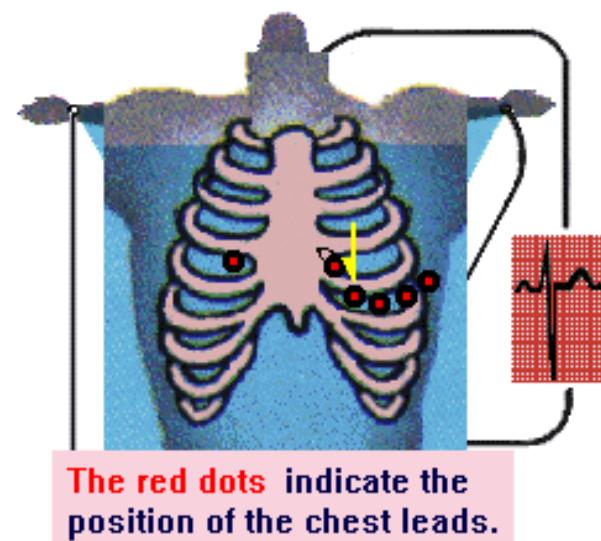
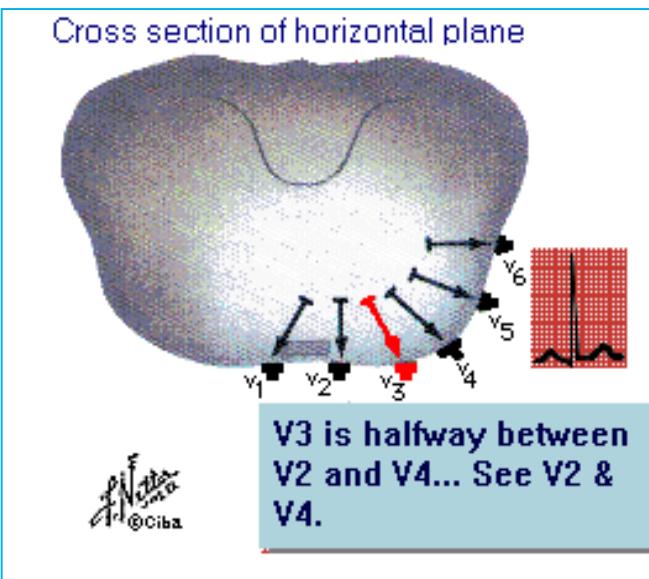


V2 is at the fourth  
intercostal space to  
the left of the sternum.



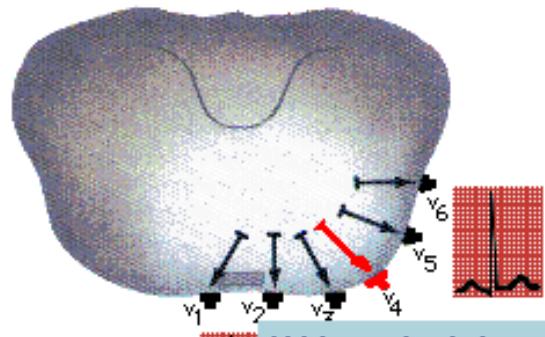
The red dots indicate the  
position of the chest leads.

## Precordial leads :V3

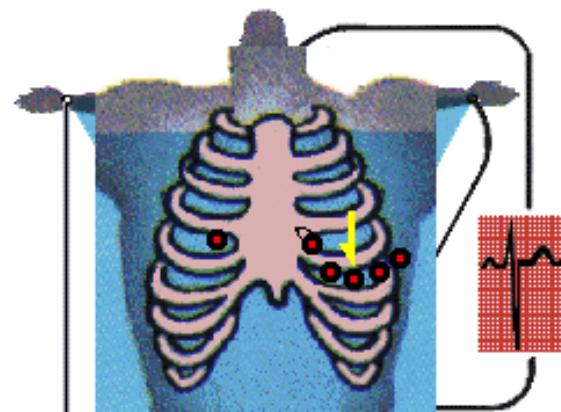


# Precordial leads :V4

Cross section of horizontal plane



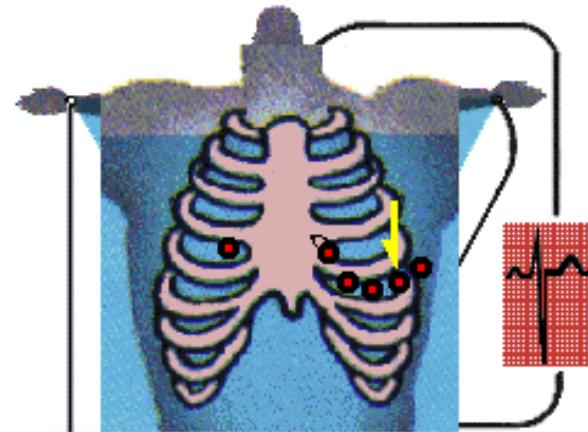
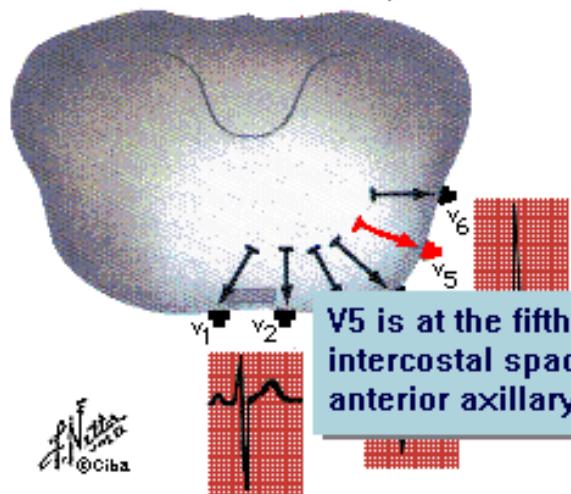
V4 is at the left  
midclavicular line  
in  
the fifth intercostal  
space.



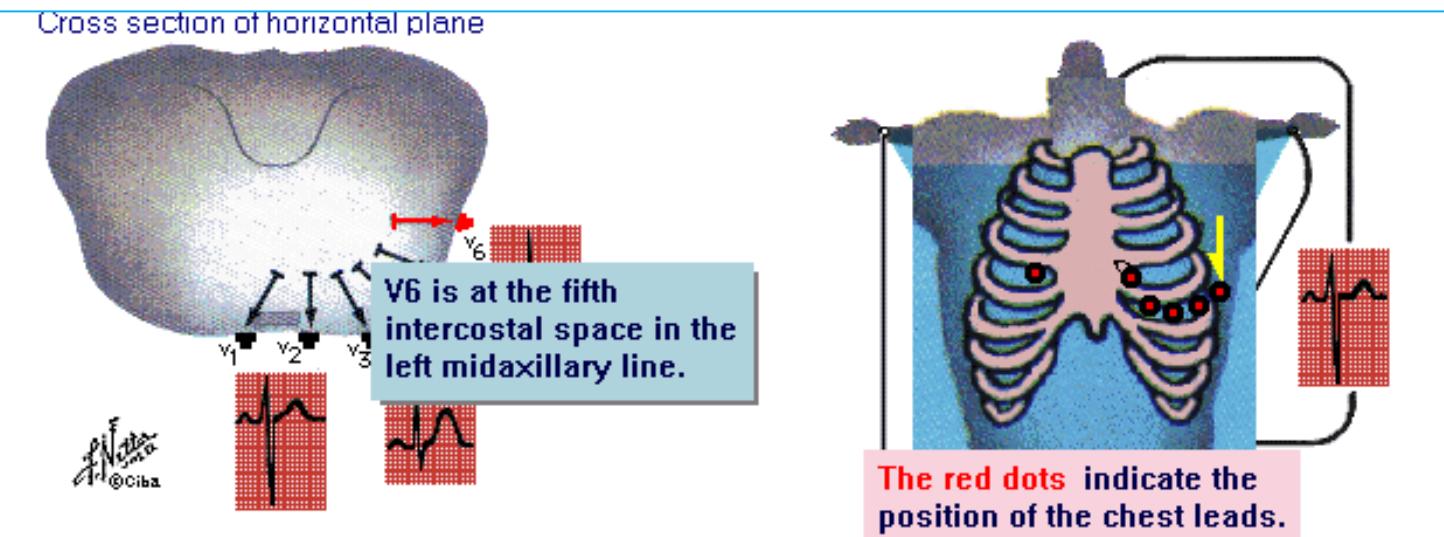
The red dots indicate the  
position of the chest leads.  
Click each dot to identify  
location.

# Precordial leads :V5

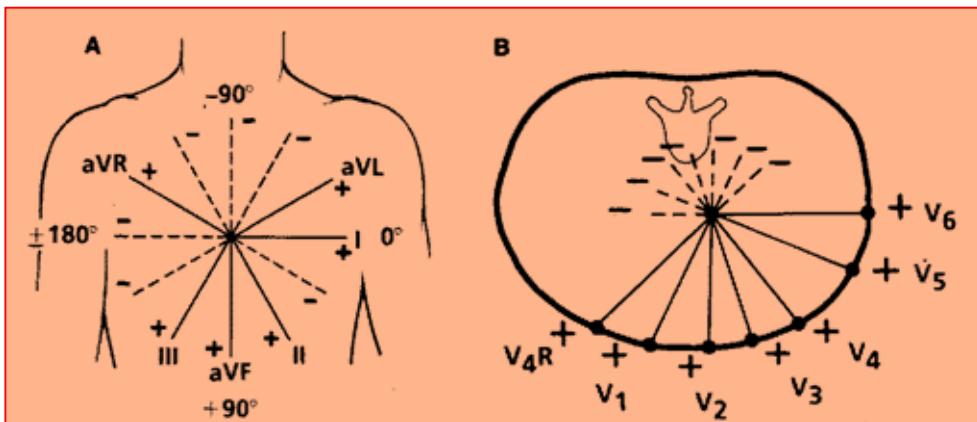
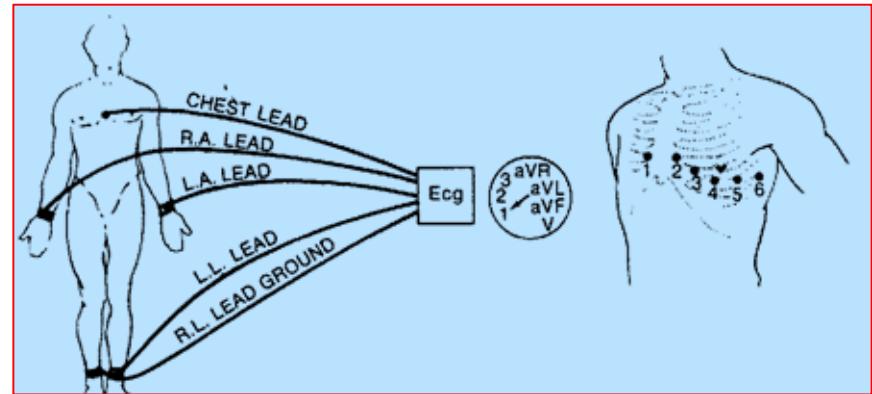
Cross section of horizontal plane



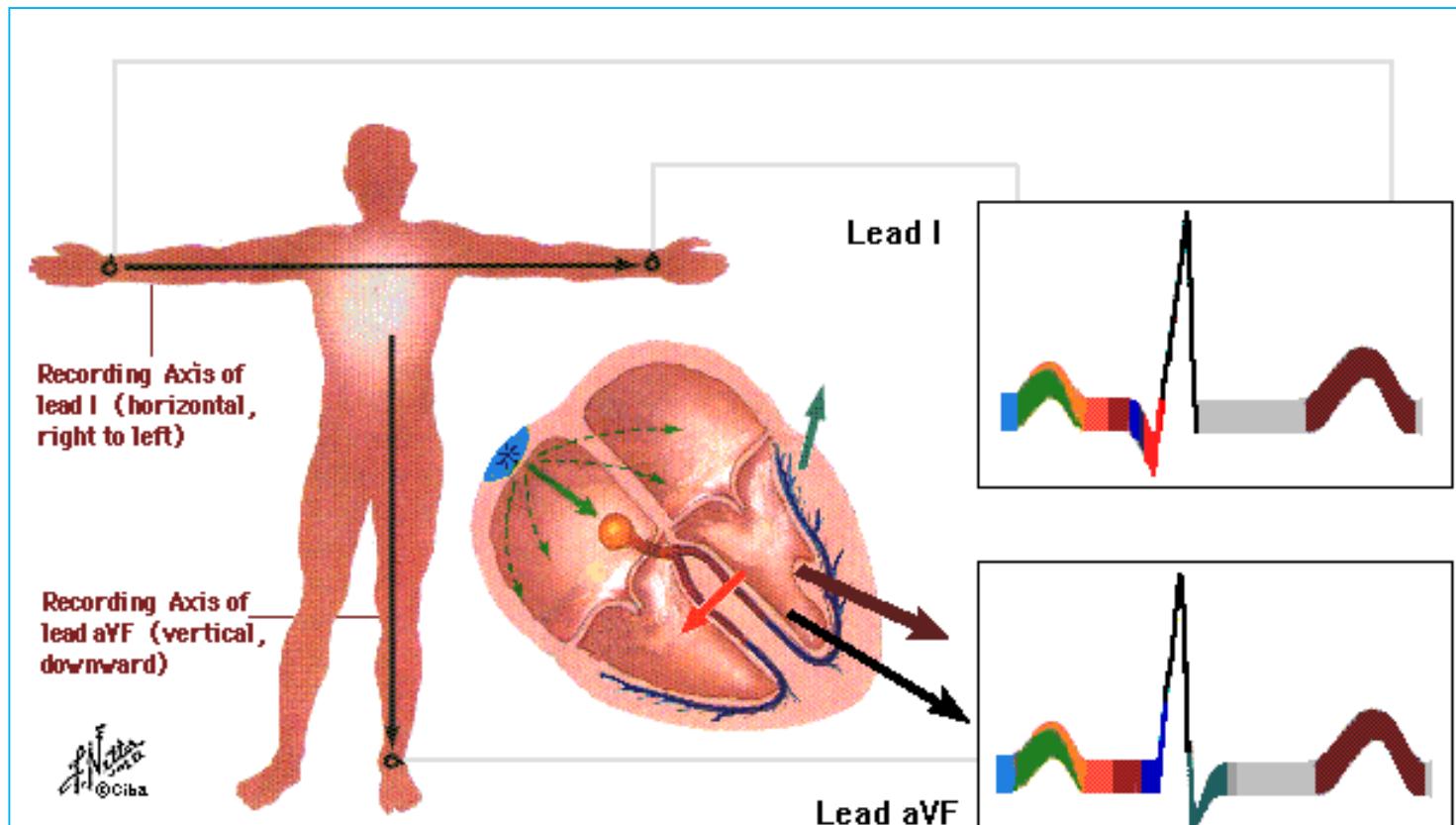
# Precordial leads :V6



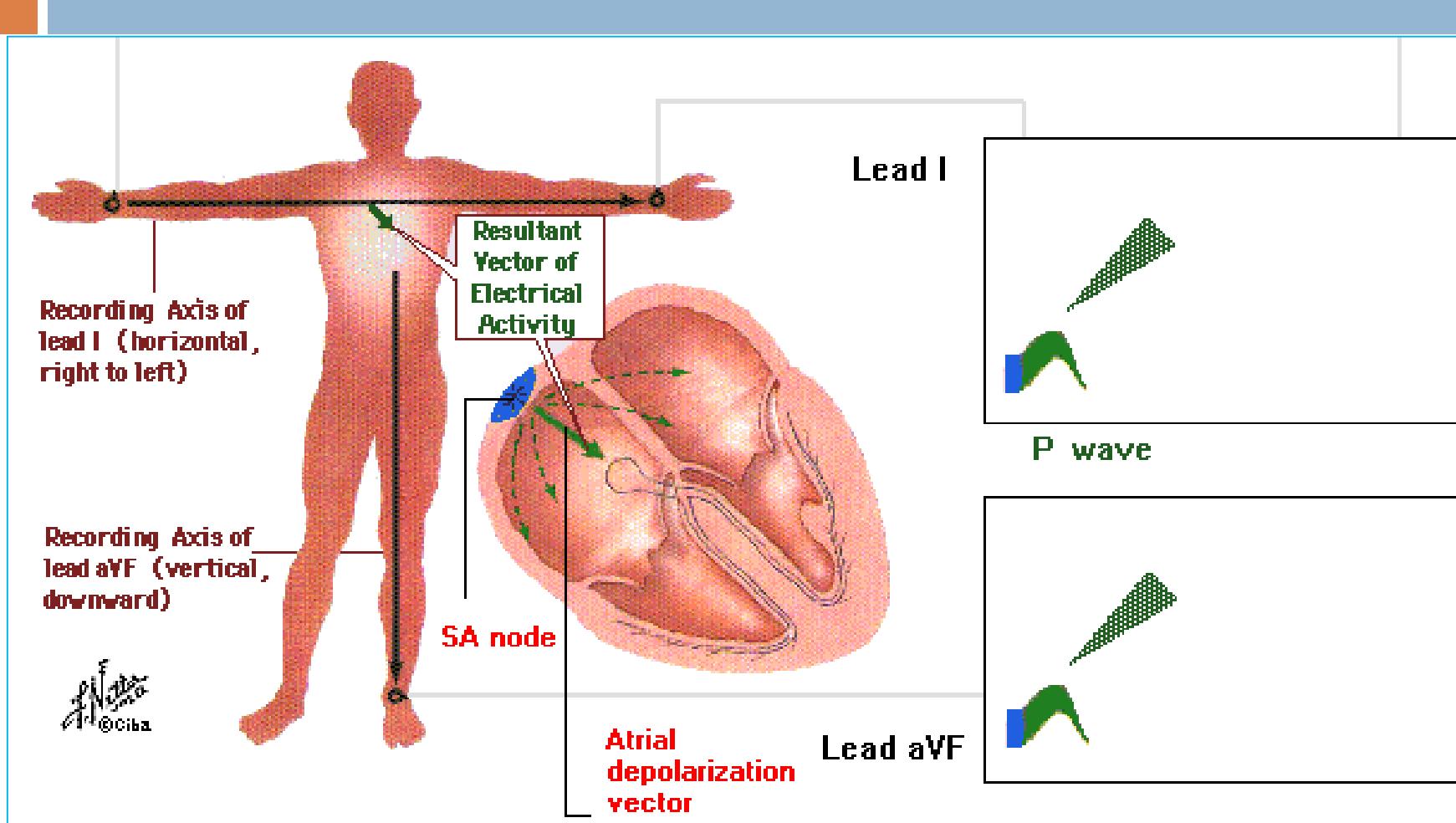
# Hexa-axial Reference systems



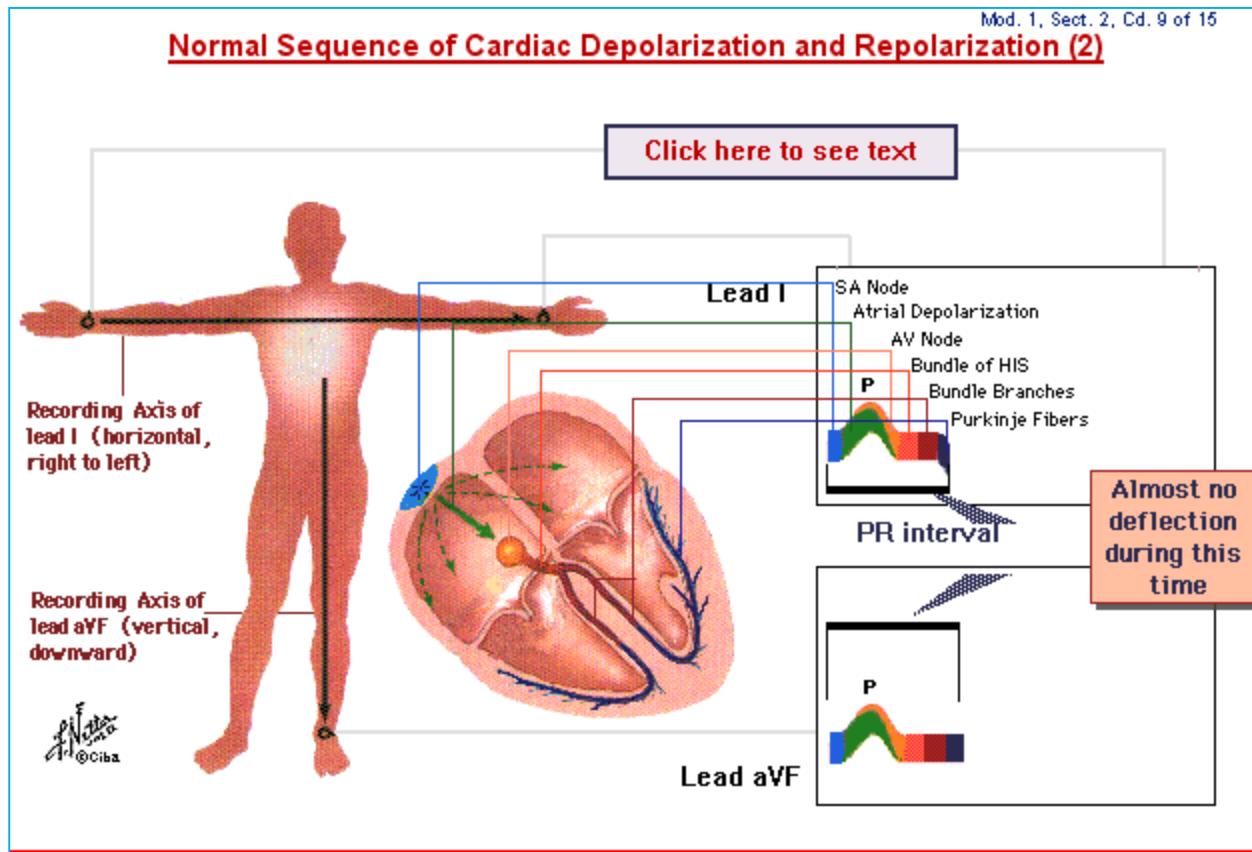
# The genesis of the PQRST/U



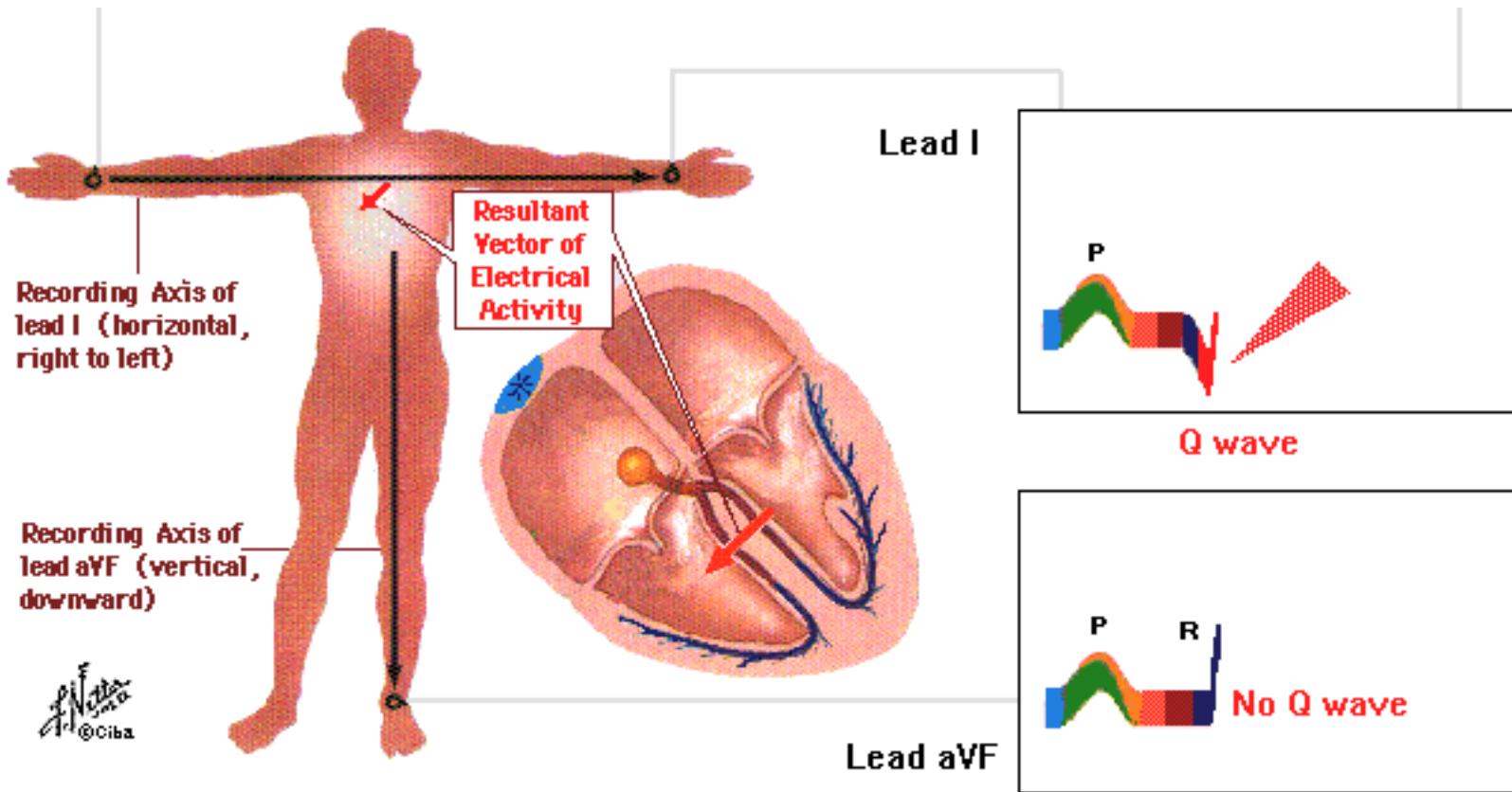
# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 1



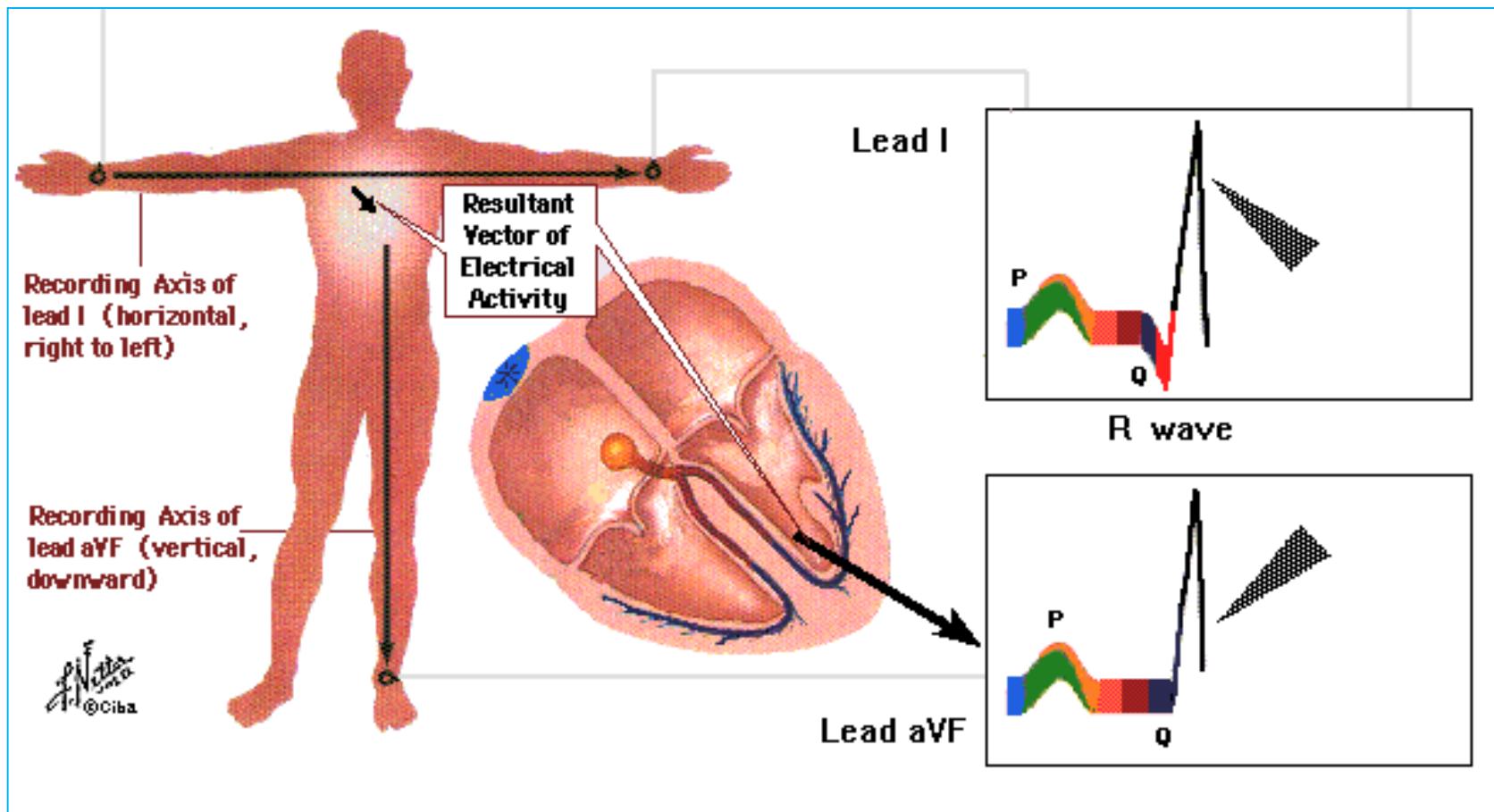
# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 2



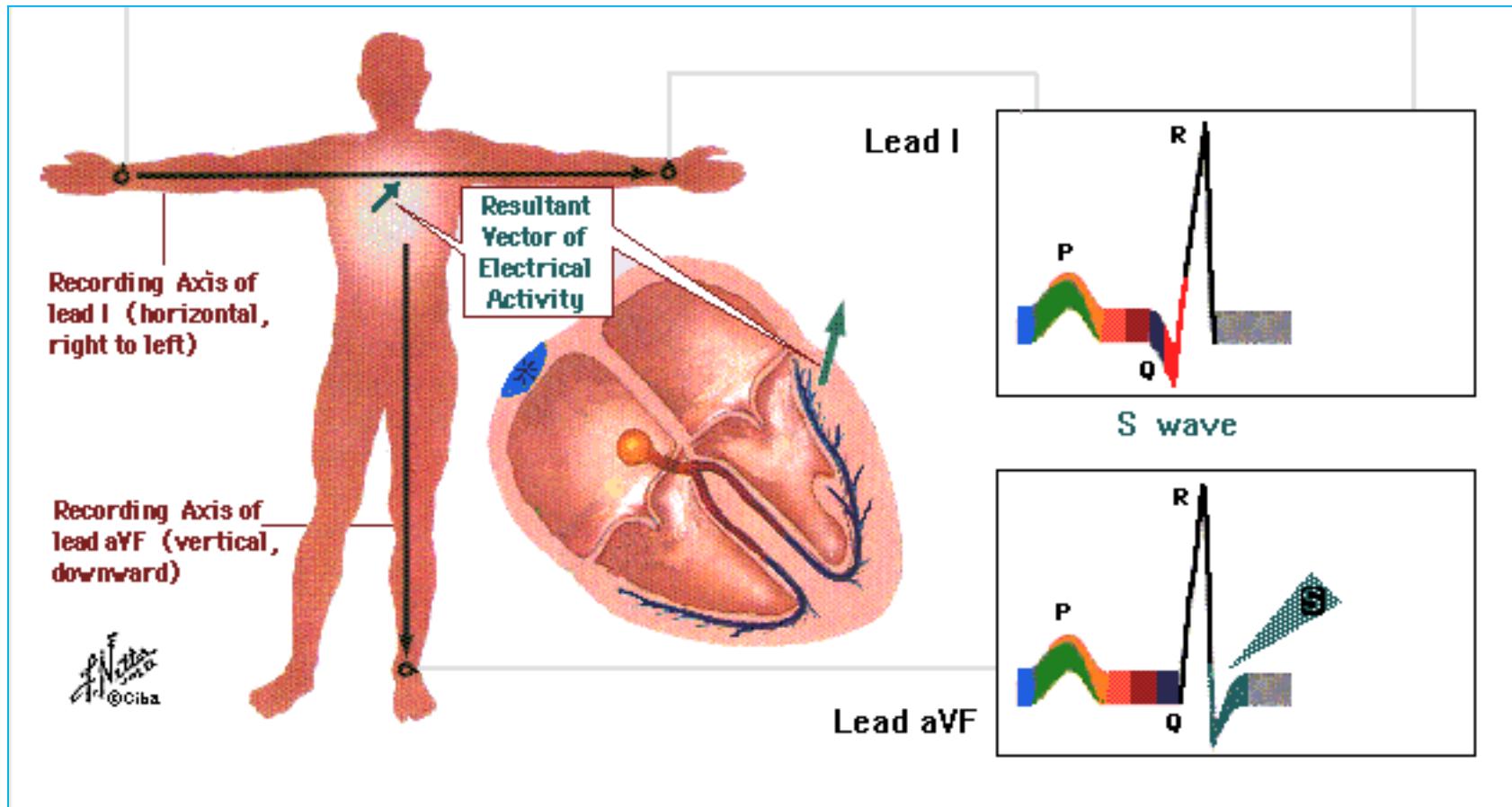
# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 3



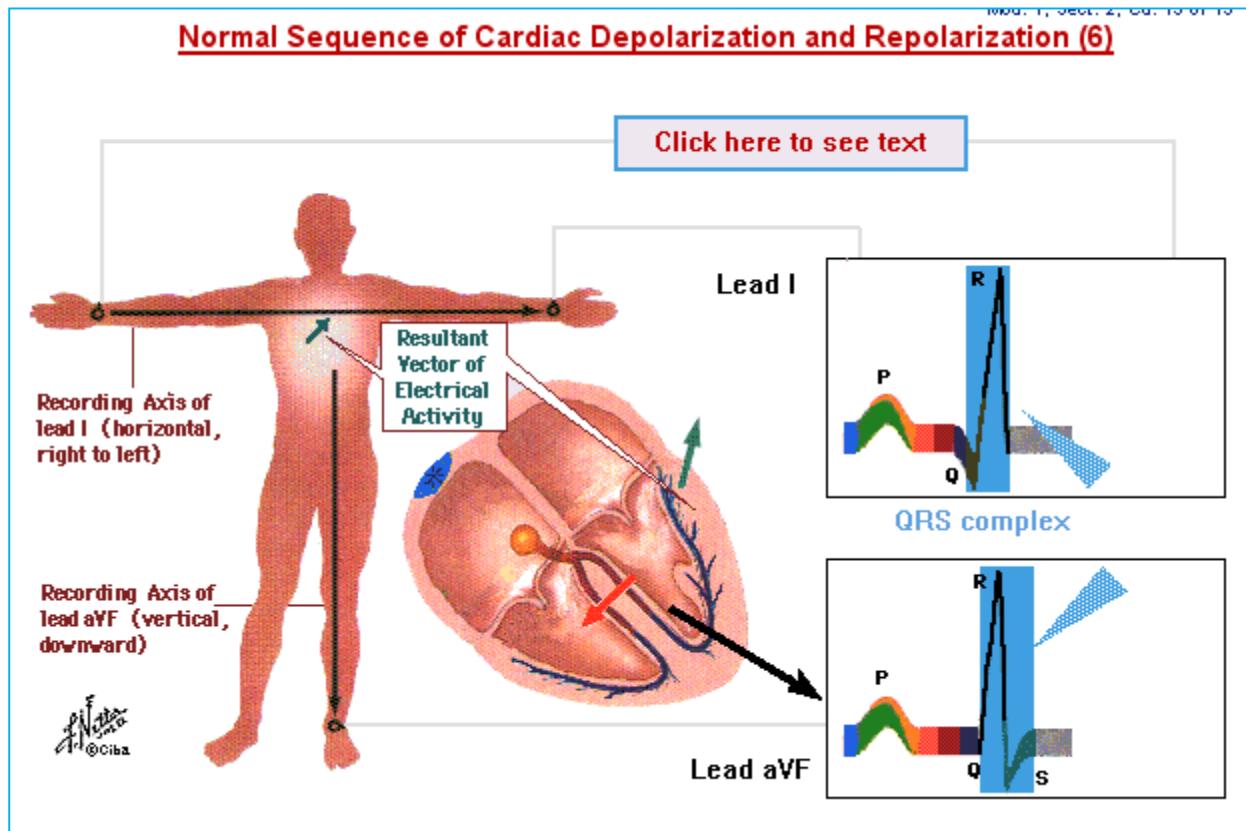
# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 4



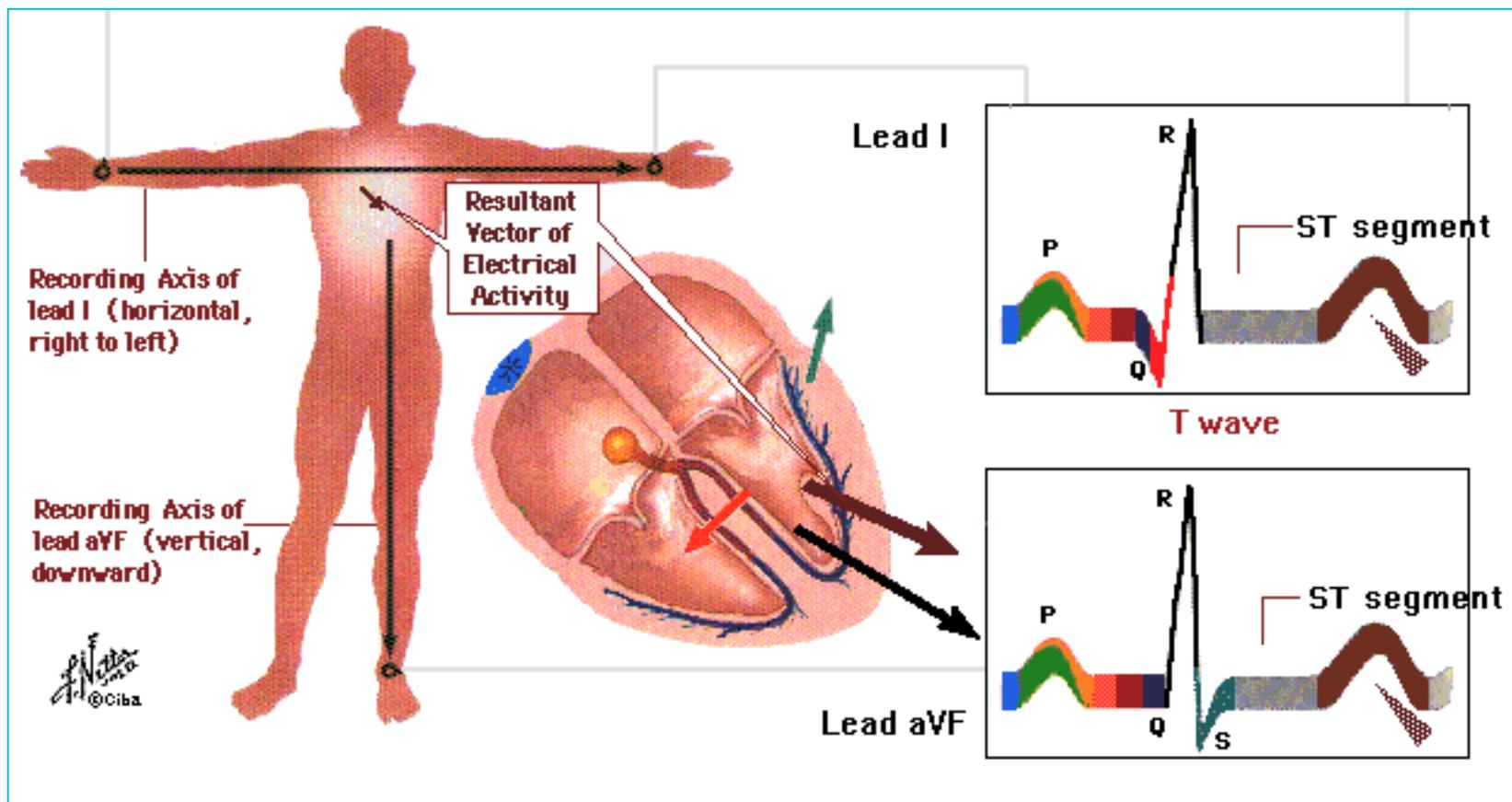
# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 5



# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 6



# Normal sequence of depolarization and repolarization 7



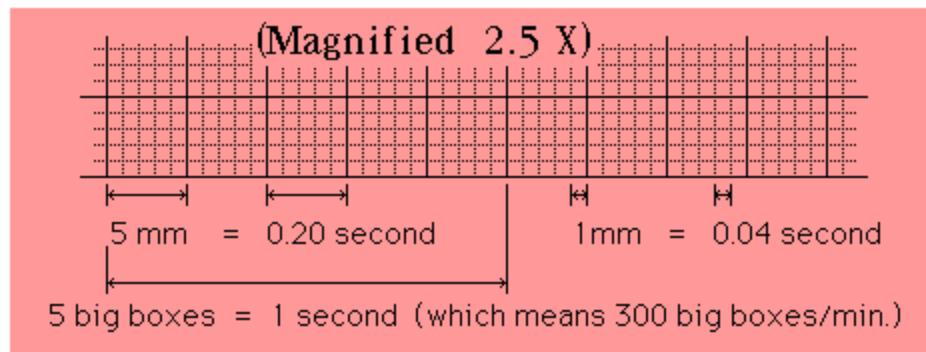
# Normal ECG

- All ECG machines run at a standard rate (25 mm per second) and use paper with standard-sized squares.
- Each small square (1 mm) represents 40 ms (0.04 seconds), while each large square (5 mm) represents 200 ms (0.2 seconds). On the y axis, each small square represents 0.1 mV.
- ECGs may be recorded as a standard ‘12-lead ECG’ or individual ‘rhythm strips’.

# Horizontal Measurements

Mod. 1, Sect. 3, Cd. 2 of 5

## Horizontal Measurements



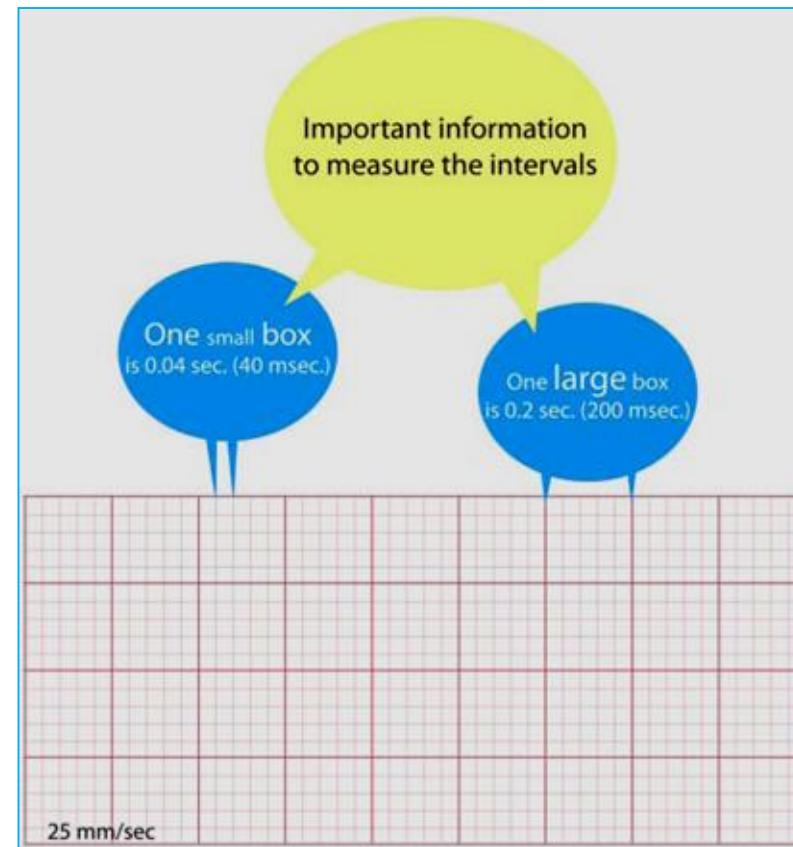
Since ECG paper routinely moves through the machine at a constant speed of 25 mm/second, the horizontal axis on paper represents time. Horizontal lines on standard ECG paper are ruled every millimeter, with darker lines every 5 mm. Five large boxes of 5 mm each equal 25 mm, or 1 second of time.

Thus, a single large box 5-mm wide represents 0.20 second, and a single box 1-mm wide is 1/5 of that, or 0.04 second.

# Horizontal Measurements

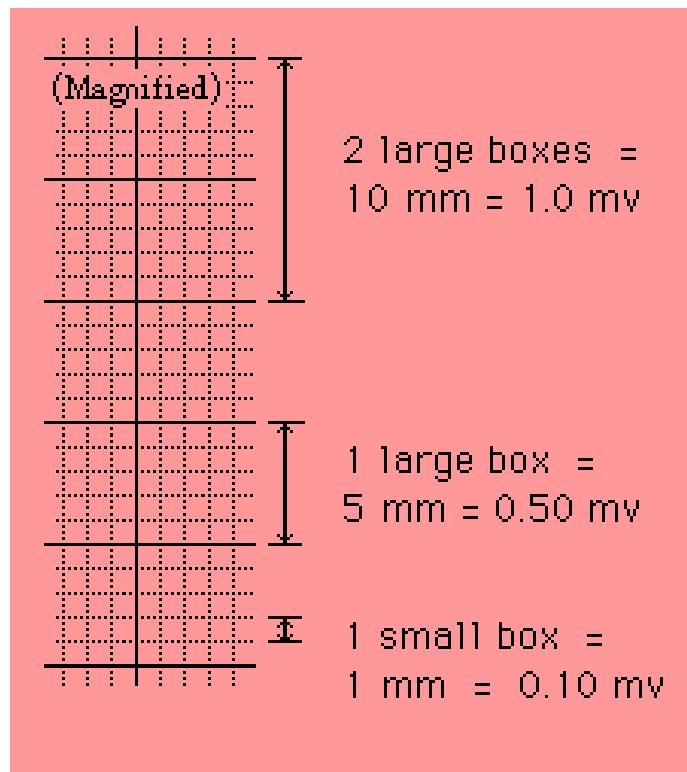
Small Box : 40 m sec

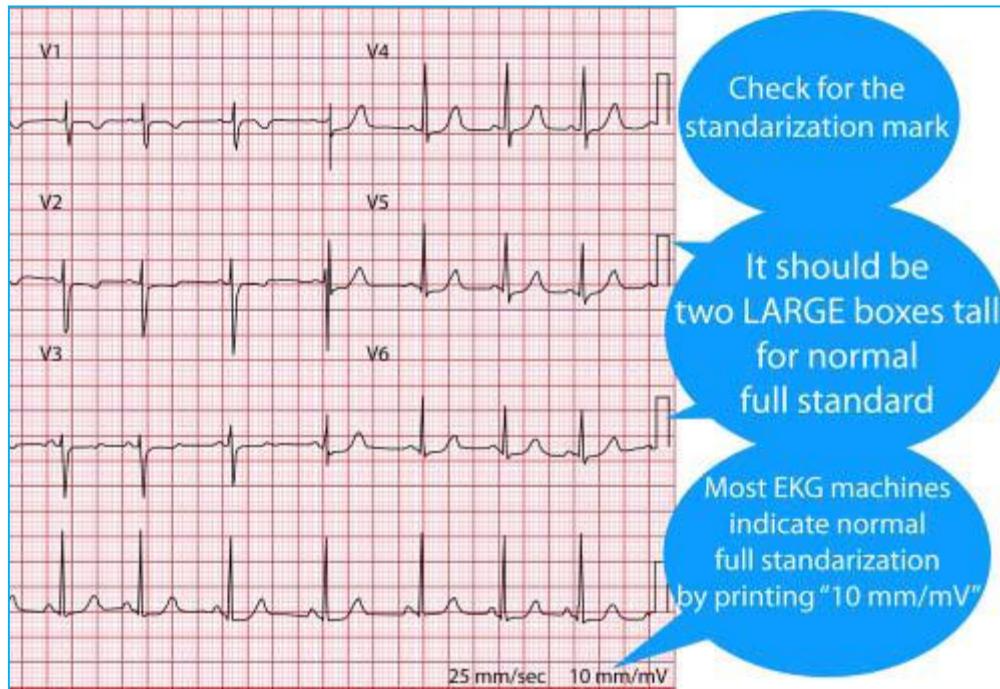
Large box :200 m sec



# Vertical Measurements

vertical axis on ECG paper represents voltage. Each ECG machine must be calibrated so that a 1-mv standardization signal produces a deflection of exactly 10 mm, and this should be checked and recorded before every ECG is taken. Thus, each small box of 1 mm in the vertical direction represents 0.10 mv, one large box represents 0.50 mv, and two large boxes represent 1 mv.



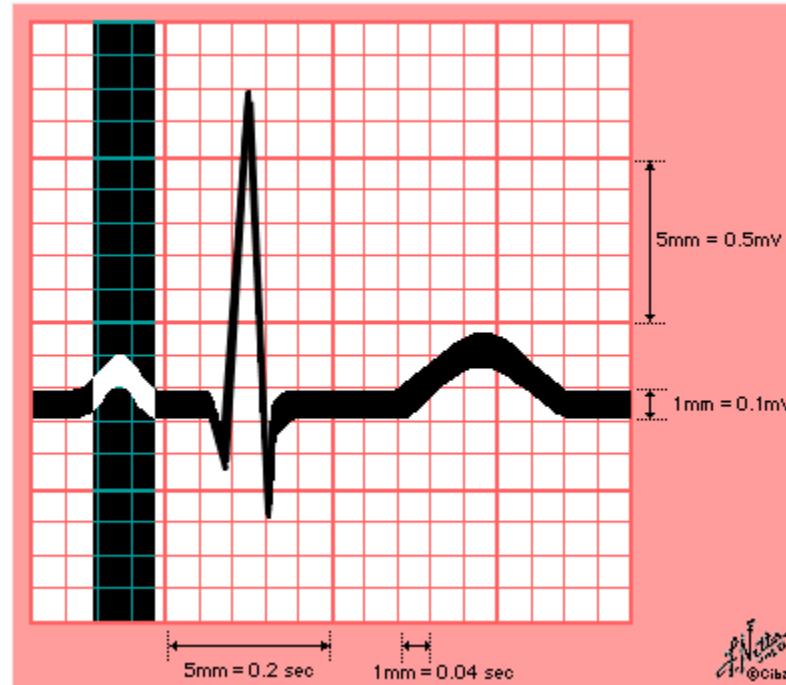


# The P wave

## \* P Wave

The P wave begins with the first upward deflection from the baseline and ends with return to the baseline.

The normal P wave measures less than 0.11 second in width, or not quite three small boxes.

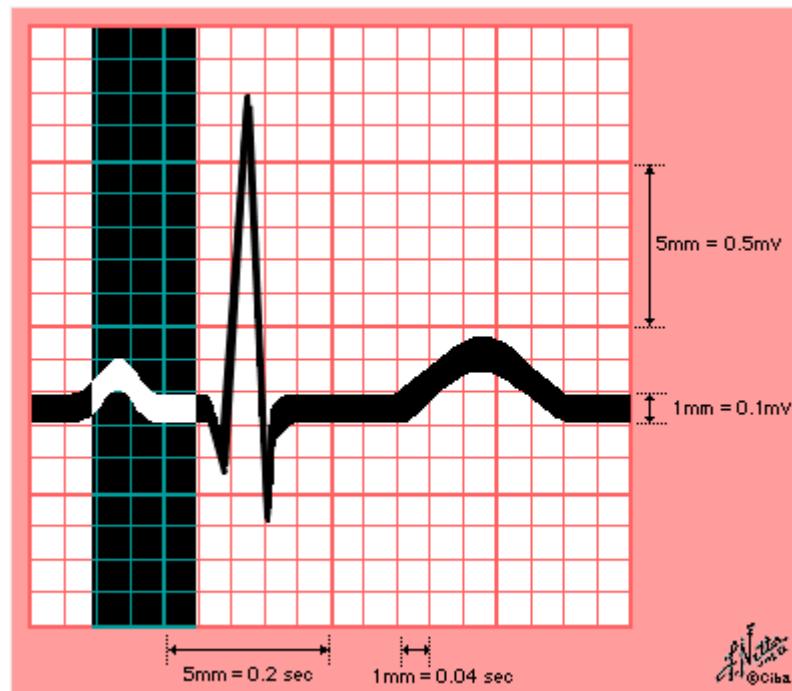


# The P-R Interval

## \* PR Interval

The PR interval is measured from the first upward deflection of the P wave to the first deflection of the QRS from the baseline, whether negative (Q) or positive (R).

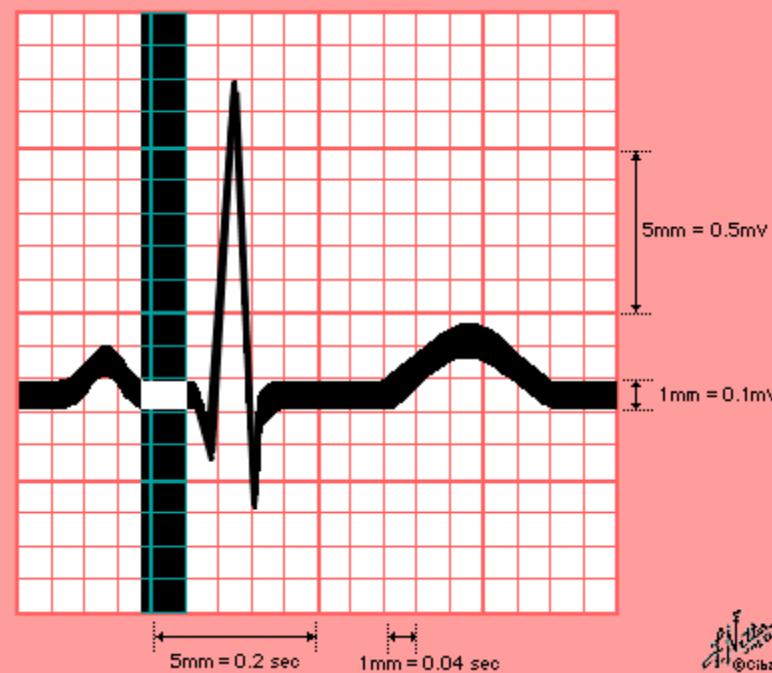
The normal PR interval varies slightly according to age and heart rate, but, for all practical purposes, it can be said to range from 0.12 to 0.20 second, or three to five small boxes.



# The P-R Segment

## \* PR Segment

The PR segment is almost never measured.

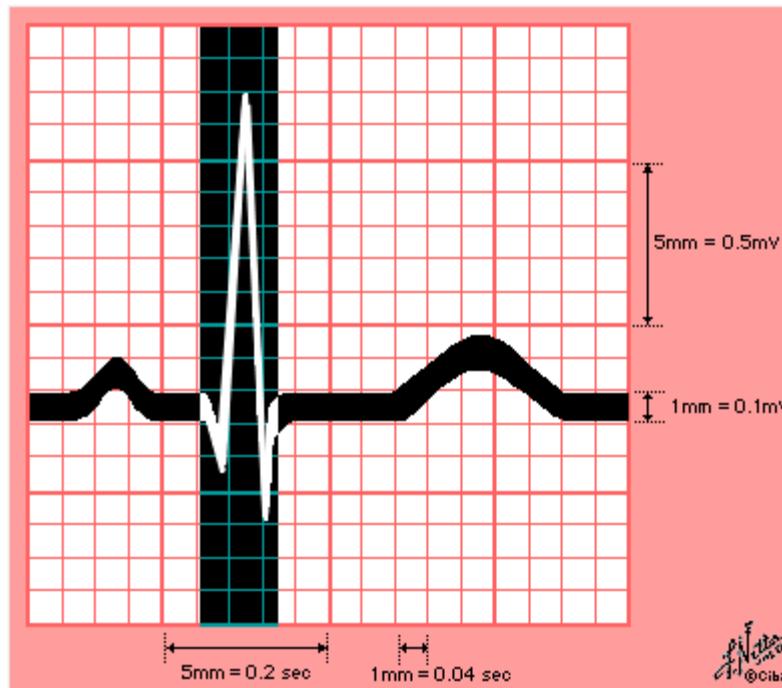


# The QRS complex

## \* QRS Interval

The QRS interval is measured from the first deflection of the QRS from the baseline, whether negative or positive, to the eventual return of the QRS to the baseline.

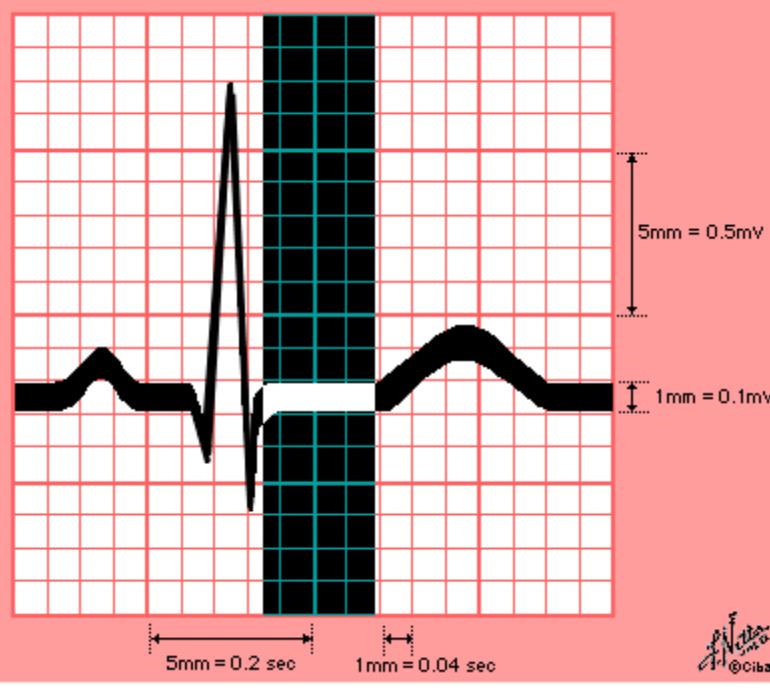
The QRS interval should be less than 0.10 second, or two and one-half small boxes.



# The ST segment

## \* ST Segment

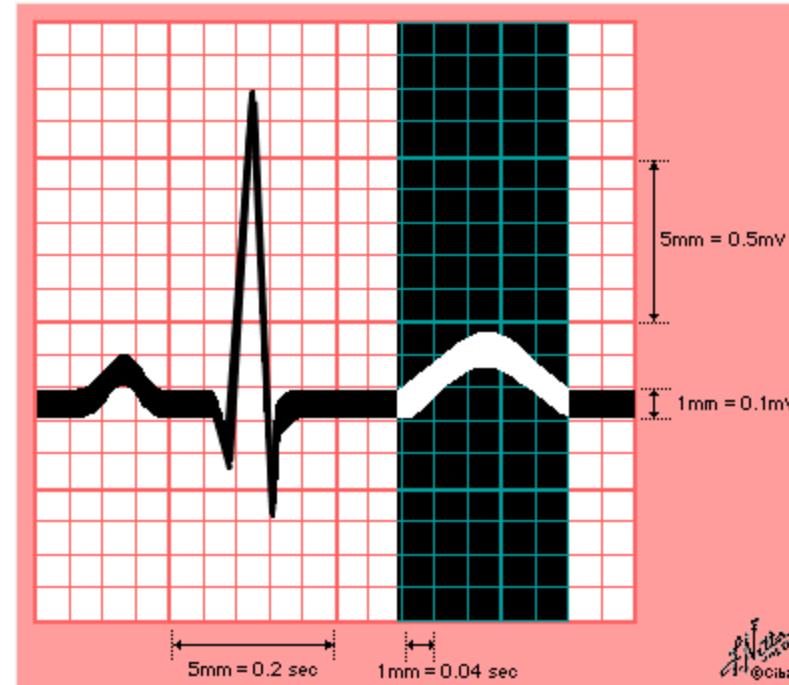
The ST segment runs from the return of the QRS to the baseline until the first upward or downward deflection of the T wave. While the duration of the ST segment is not generally of clinical significance, it is an exceedingly important portion of the ECG because of shifts up or down from the baseline. These shifts may be associated with ischemic heart disease, pericarditis, or other conditions. Note that such shifts are generally measured at a point 0.08 second (80 msec), or two small boxes, after the end of the QRS complex.



# The T wave

## \* T Wave

The T wave shows the wave of repolarization.

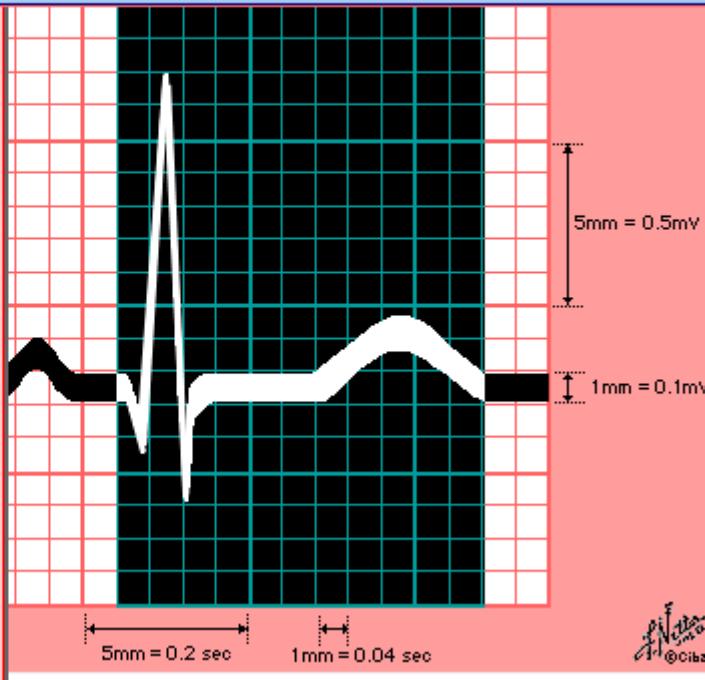


# The Q-T Interval

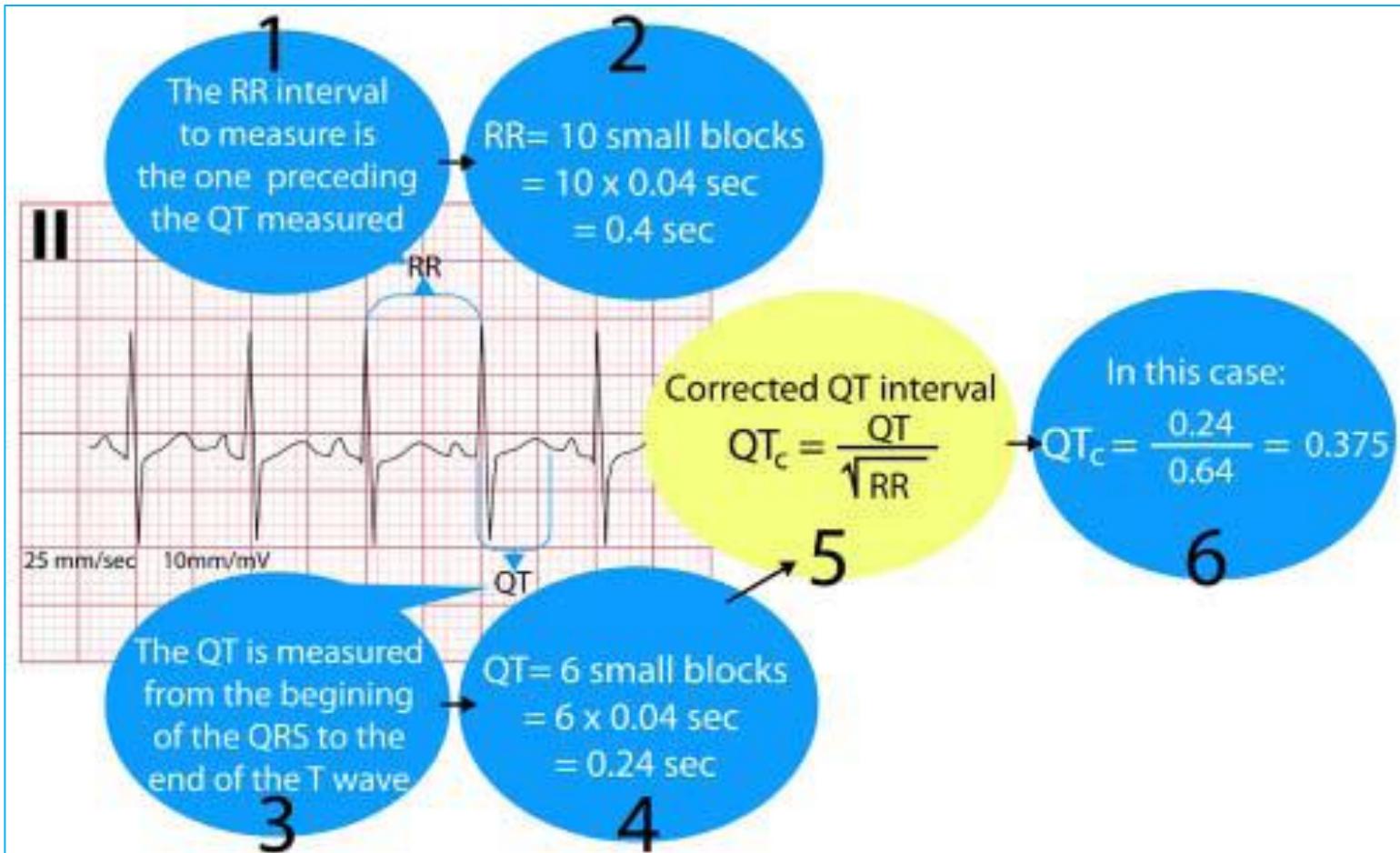
The most common formula, that of Bazett, derives a corrected QT interval, or QTc, from the formula:  
$$QTc = QT / \sqrt{RR \text{ Interval}}$$

Where RR interval is the time between two adjacent complexes, i.e., the cycle time.

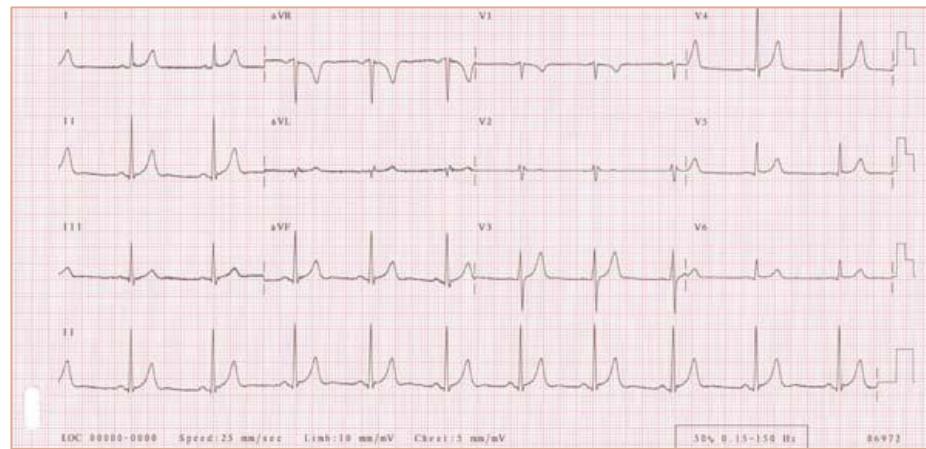
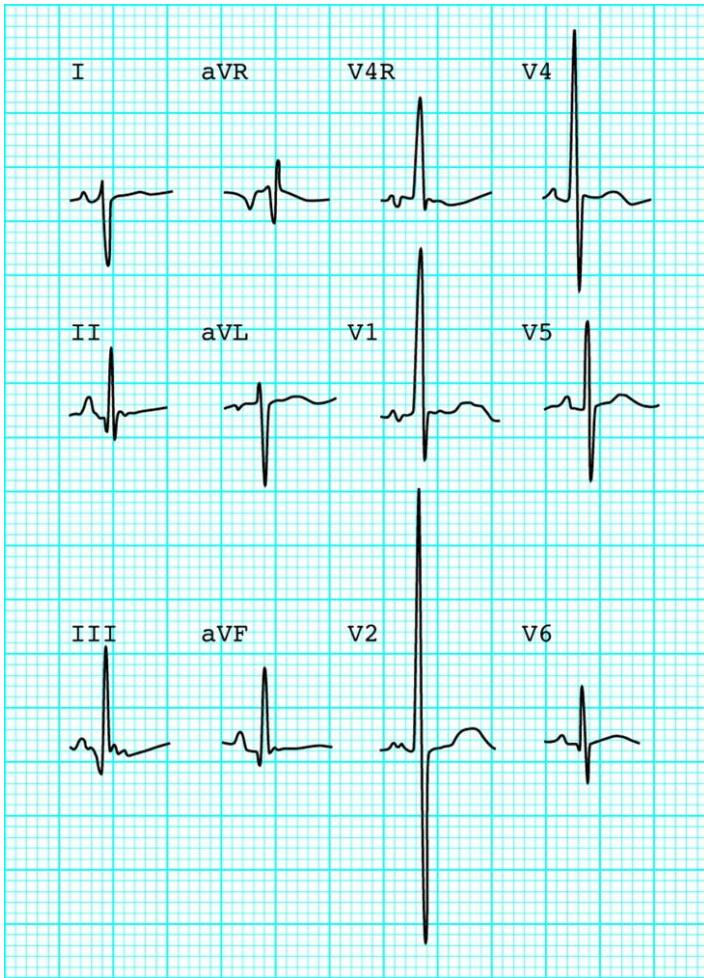
The QT interval is measured from the beginning of the QRS complex to the final return of the T wave to the baseline. The QT interval is markedly affected by heart rate, and formulas \* or tables that take heart rate into account must be used to obtain the upper limits of normal. However, most electrocardiographers consult charts. \* For the guidance of the beginning ECG reader, one might generalize that with normal heart rates, 60 to 100/minute, QT intervals are in the range of 0.30 to 0.40 second, and the maximum QT interval is generally about 10% longer in females than in males. Unless the heart rate is very slow, a QT interval exceeding 0.40 to 0.44 second is probably abnormally prolonged.



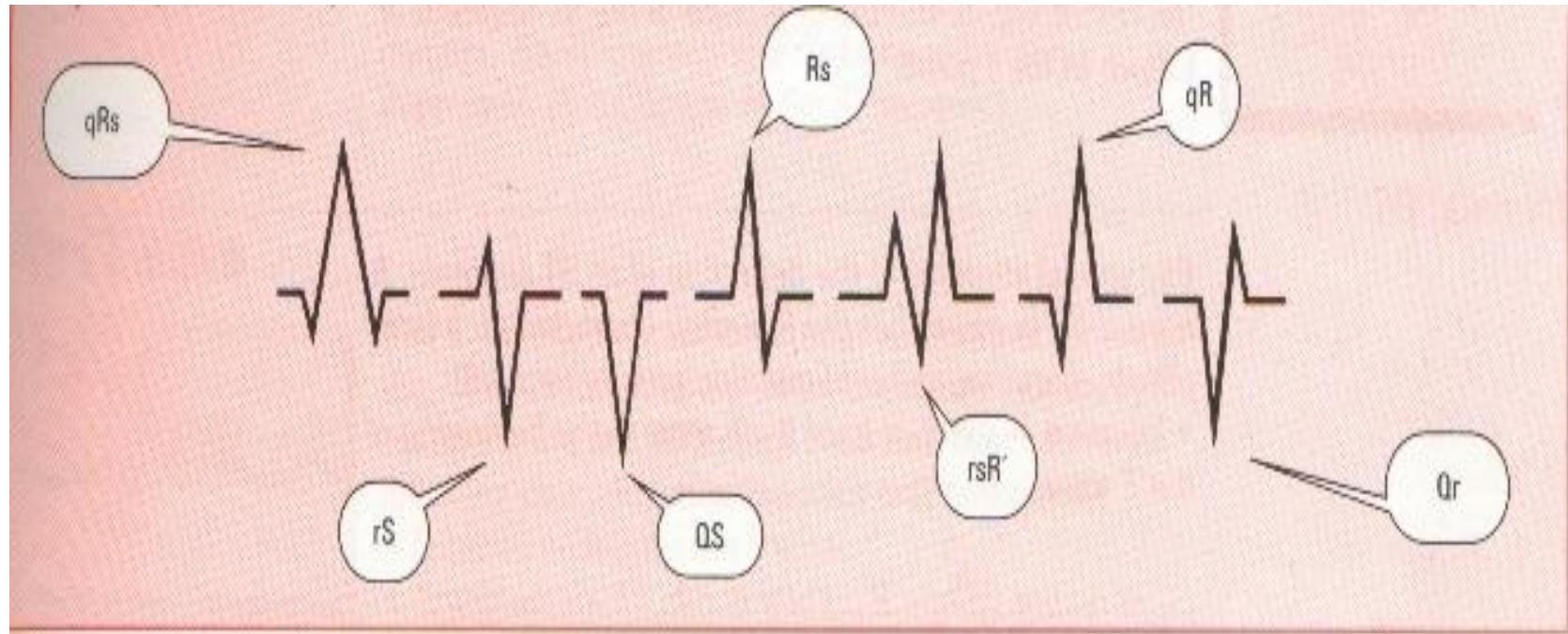
# The Q-T Interval



# ECG Channels



# QRS varieties



PART : II

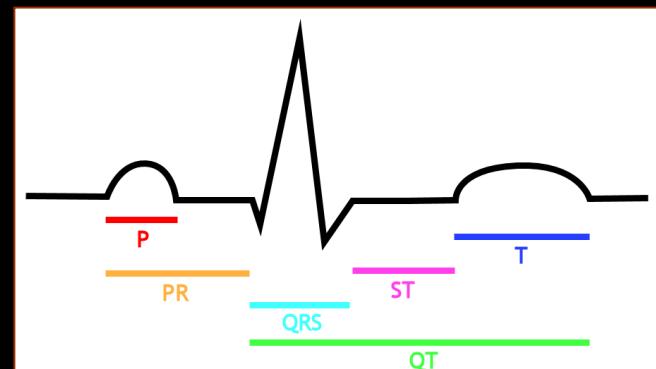
# Indications for ECG

---

- History suggestive of cardiac cause of Chest pain .
- History suggestive of cardiac syncope
- Suspected arrhythmia or conduction disturbance .
- Suspected toxic exposure
- Suspected electrolyte derangement
- Sepsis with suspicion for cardiac involvement
- Acute Myocarditis
- Initial diagnosis and follow up of Pericarditis
- Rheumatic fever or IE or KD
- As an initial tool searching for pathognomonic clues to certain CVHD or metabolic diseases .

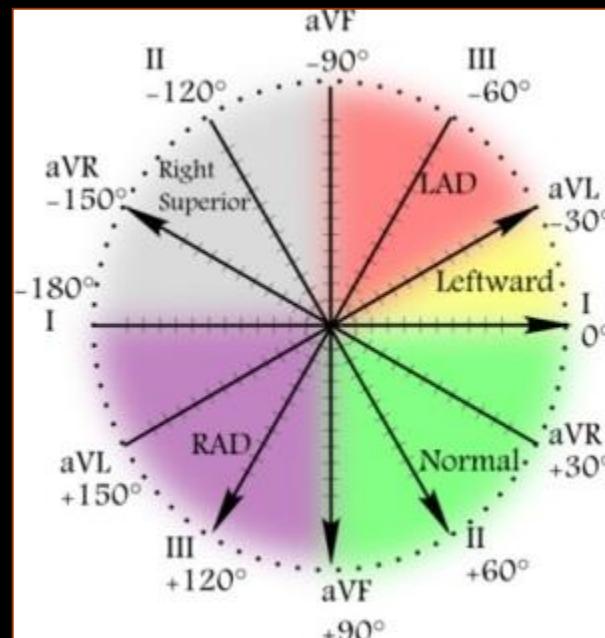
# Components

- P-wave is atrial depolarization
- QRS is ventricle depolarization
- T-wave is ventricle repolarization
- PR interval may be short or long
- ST segment may be elevated or depressed
- QTc may be long or short



# Tackling the ECG

- Rate
- Rhythm
- Axis
- Chambers
- Conduction
- Blocks
- Ischemia/infarction



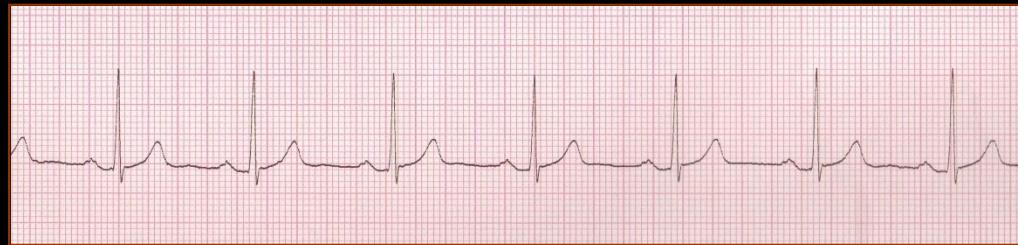
# Always check for standardization mark and paper speed:



# Tackling the ECG

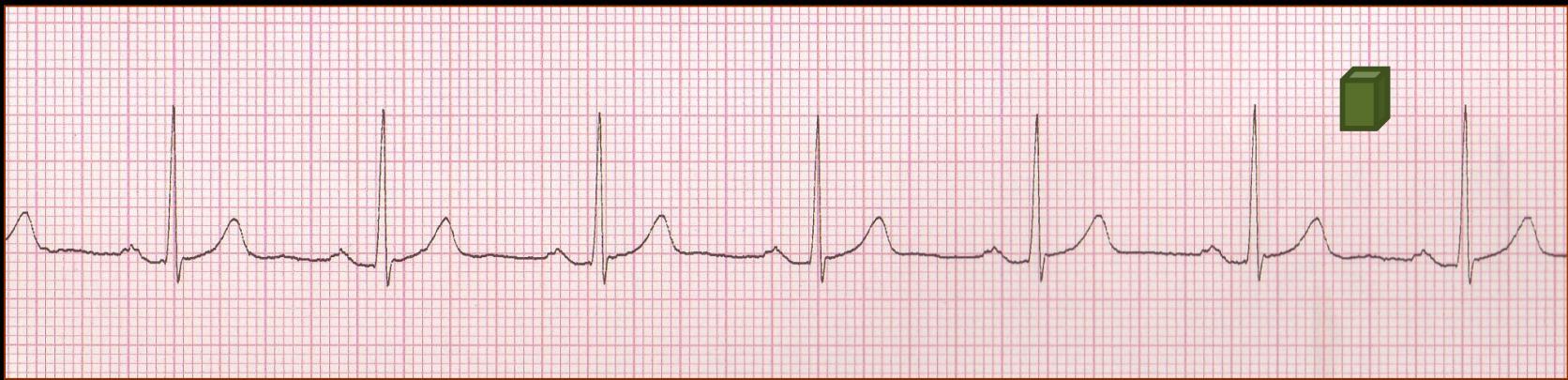
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I-Rate



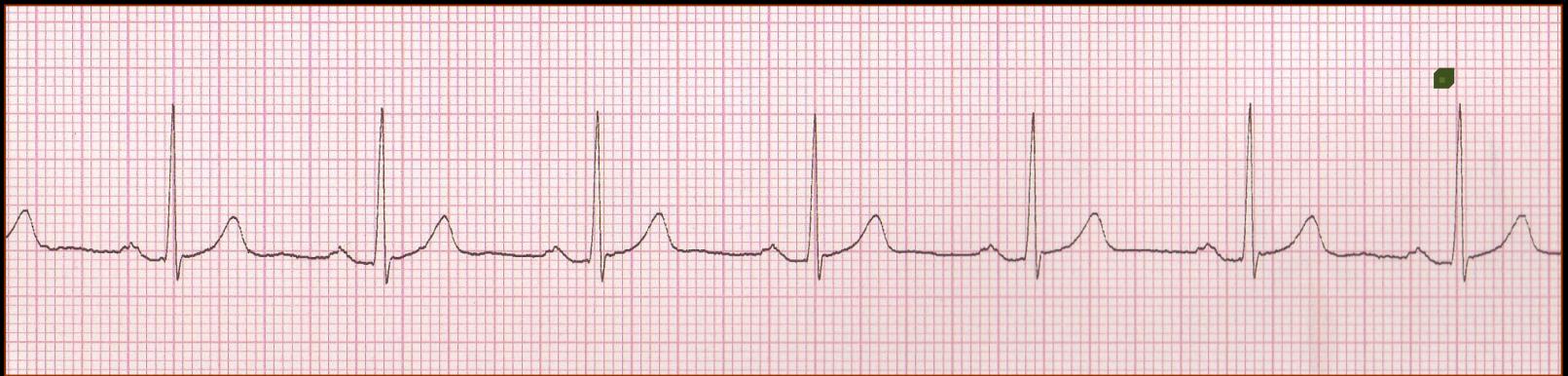
# Rate

- Count *big boxes* :  $300/\text{number of large boxes}$ 
  - 300, 150, 100, 75, 60, 50

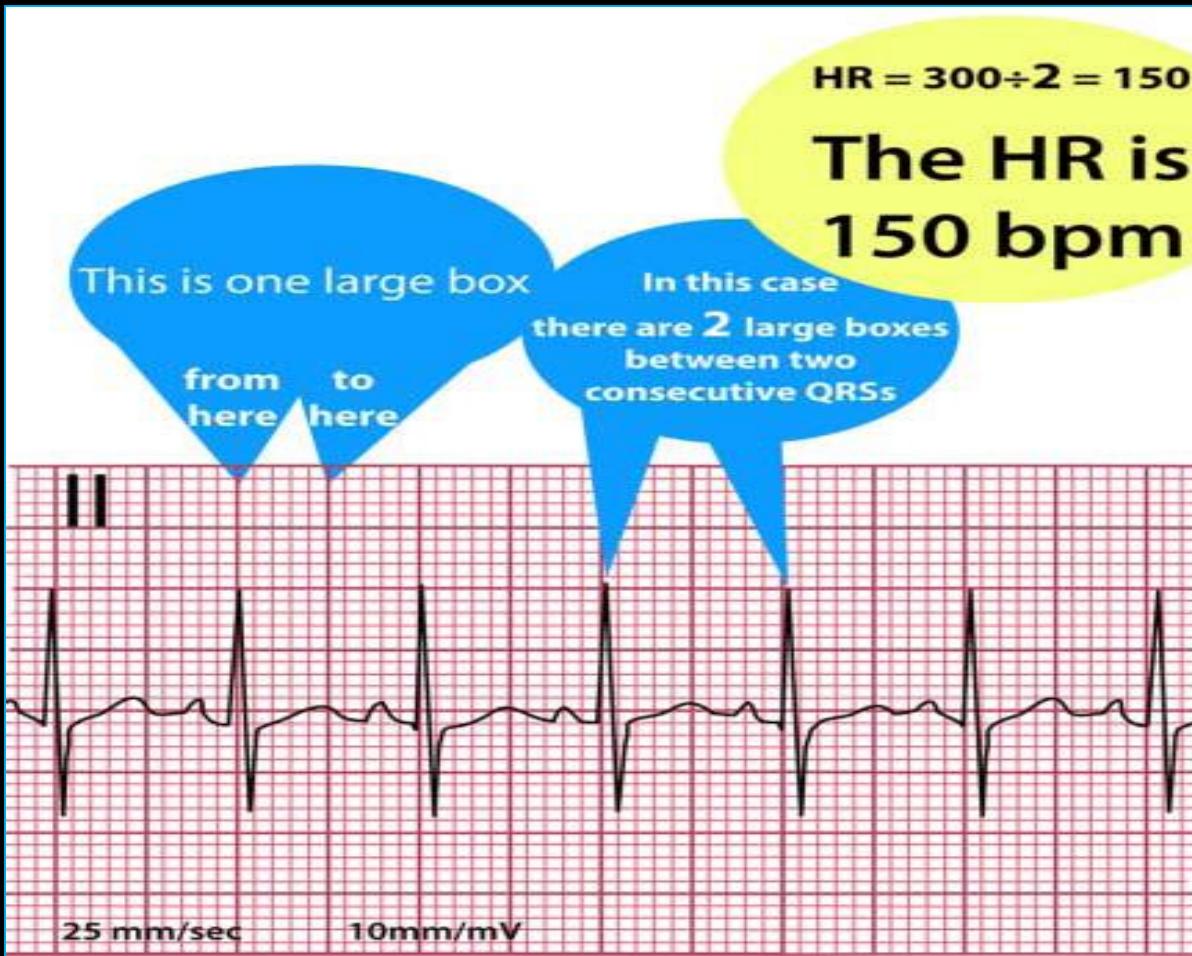


# Heart Rate

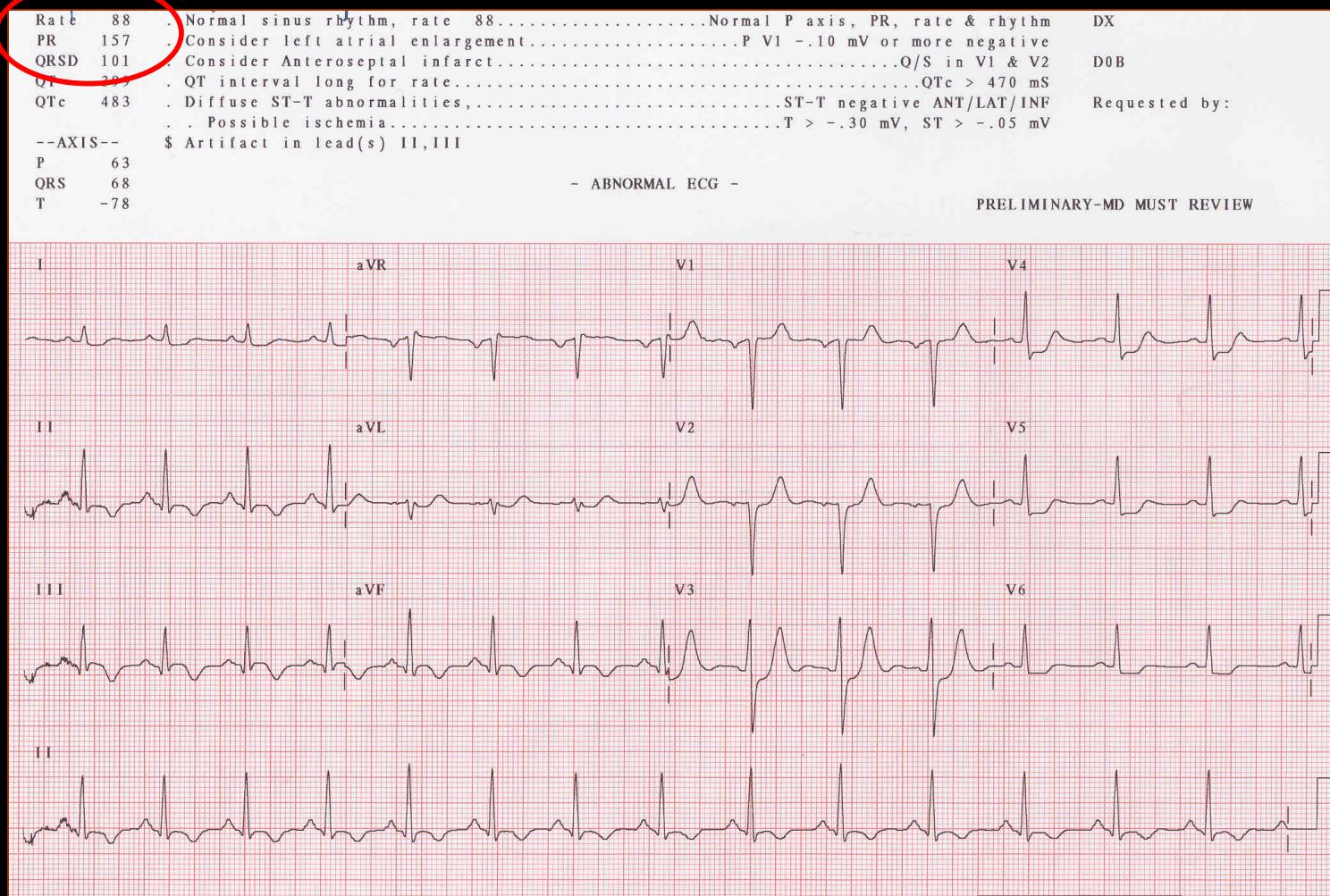
- Count *small boxes* :  $1500/\text{number of small boxes}$ 
  - 300, 150, 100, 75, 60, 50



# Heart Rate



# ...or look at the top of the page



# Rate : Regular Rhythm

Recall that ECG paper moves through the machine at a constant speed of 25 mm/second, and each large box is 5-mm wide. Hence, 5 large boxes pass by in 1 second, and  $60 \times 5$ , or 300, boxes move through in 1 minute.

Thus, we know, for example, that if there is a QRS complex every 2nd large box, the heart rate would be  $300/2$ , or 150/minute.

Here is the formula:

$$\text{Heart rate} = 300 / [\# \text{ of large boxes for 1 complete cycle}]$$



Very fast rate: 1 complex every large box = 300/minute



# Rate : Regular Rhythm



1 complex every other large box = (1/2 as fast:  $300/2$ ) = 150/minute



1 complex every third large box = (1/3 as fast:  $300/3$ ) = 100/minute



# Rate : Regular Rhythm



1 complex every fourth large box = (1/4 as fast: 300/4) = 75/minute



1 complex every fifth large box = (1/5 as fast: 300/5) = 60/minute



# Rate : Regular Rhythm



1 complex every sixth large box = (1/6 as fast: 300/6) = 50/minute



1 complex every 4.5 large box = (300/4.5) = 67/minute

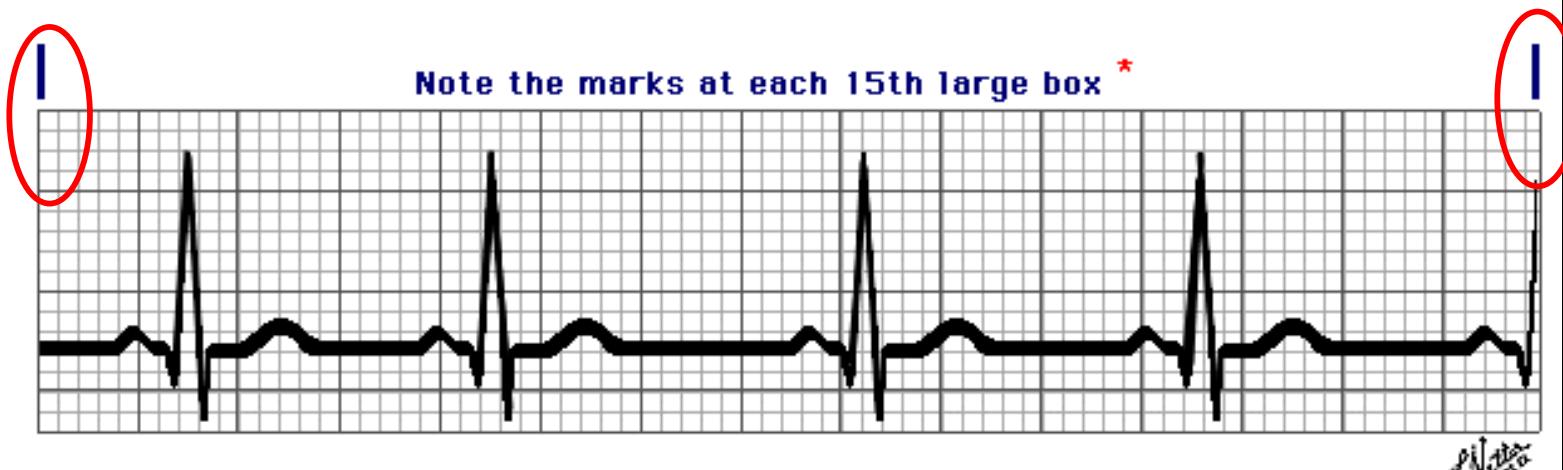


# Rate : Irregular Rhythm

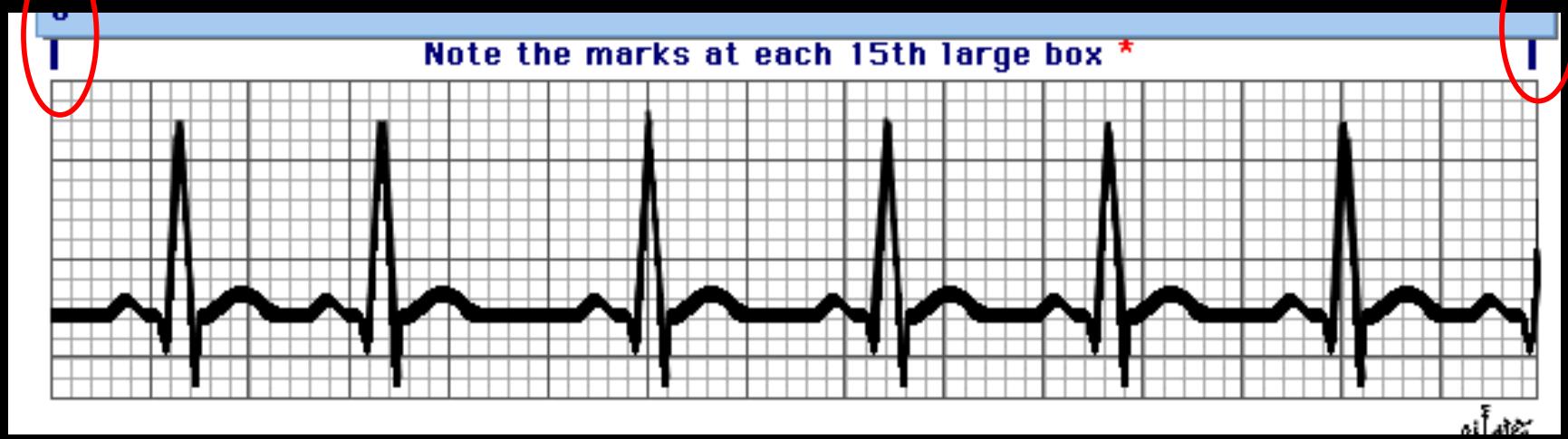
On this trace we can see that there are just slightly less than 4 beats occurring in this 3-second interval. In one minute, then, we estimate just less than 80 beats per minute.

For Irregular Rhythms, rate calculations using intervals between complexes are unreliable. Instead, we must actually COUNT THE NUMBER OF COMPLEXES over a period of time.

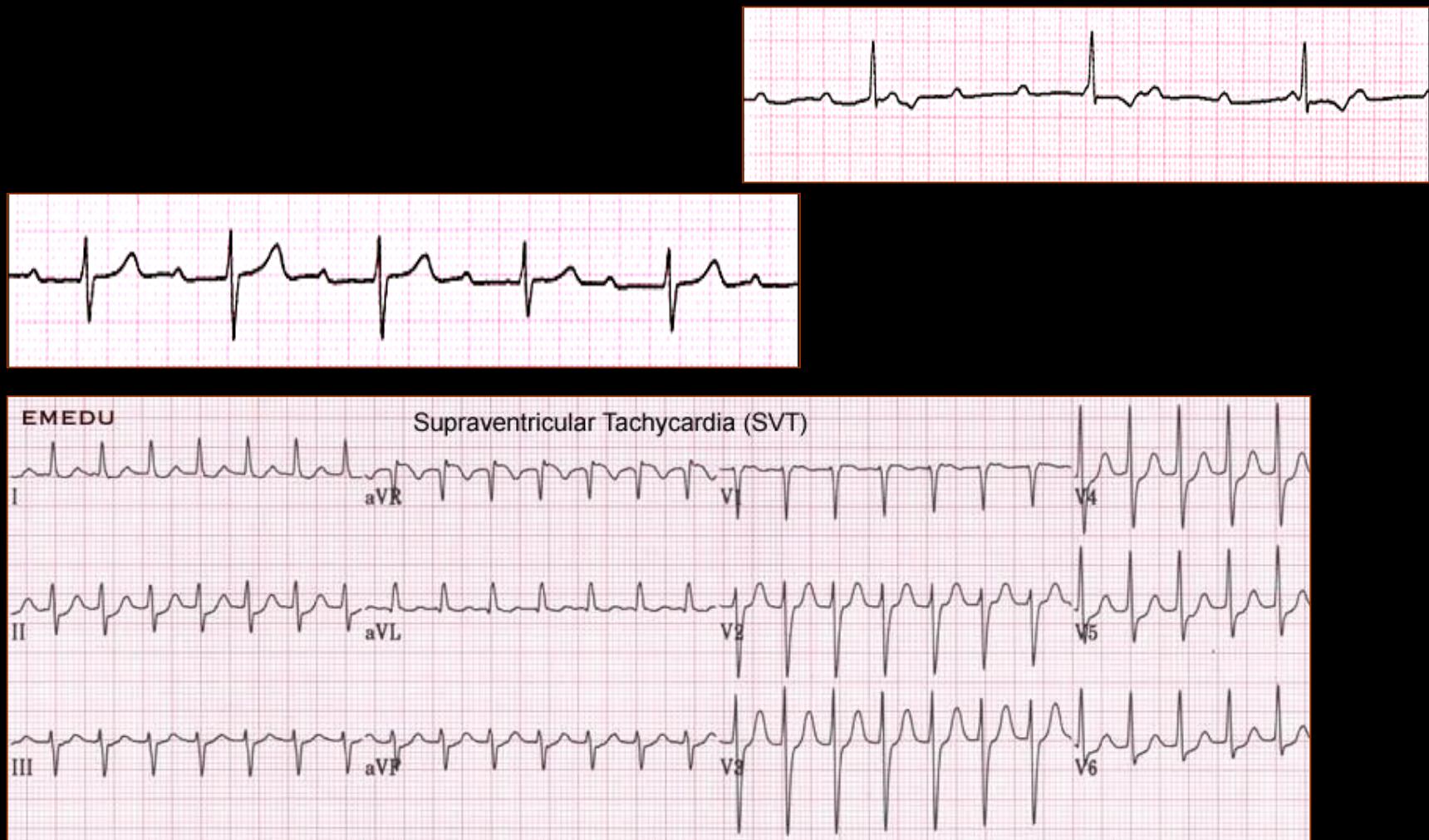
Use the SECONDS caliper to confirm that the following traces show irregular rhythms. \*



# Rate : Irregular Rhythm



# How to Calculate the heart rate in the 3 rhythm strips?



**SVT**

Supraventricular Tachycardia

$$HR = 300 \div 1.2 = 250$$

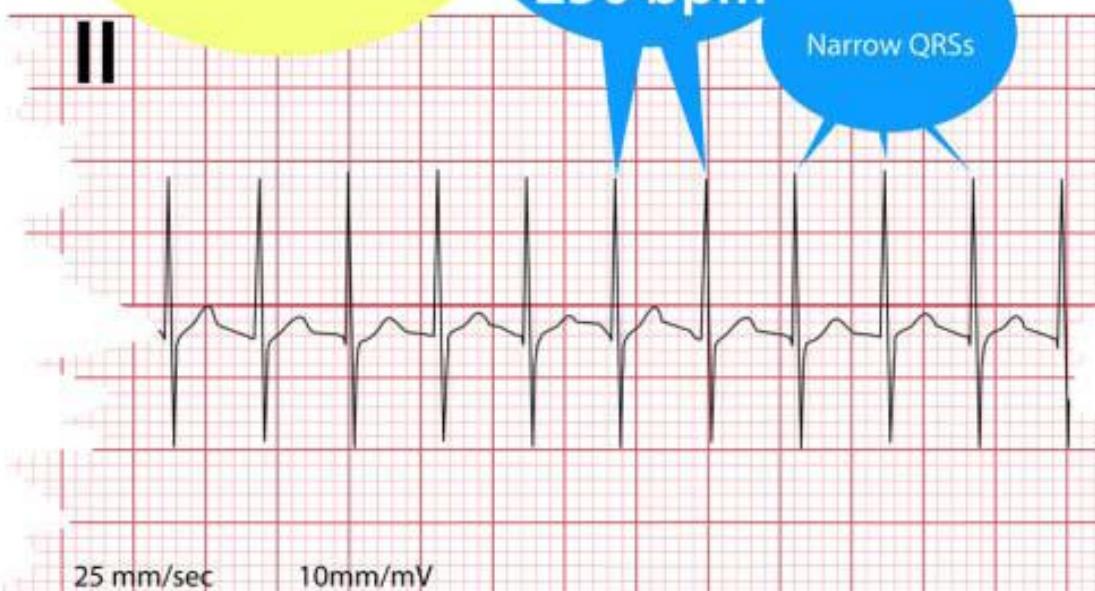
The HR is  
250 bpm

Narrow QRSs

II

25 mm/sec

10mm/mV





What is the heart rate shown in the tracing above?

Click the answer below.

1. 50/minute
2. 75/minute
3. 100/minute
4. 83/minute



What is the heart rate shown in the tracing above?  
Click the answer below.

1. 50/minute
2. 67/minute
3. 75/minute
4. 83/minute

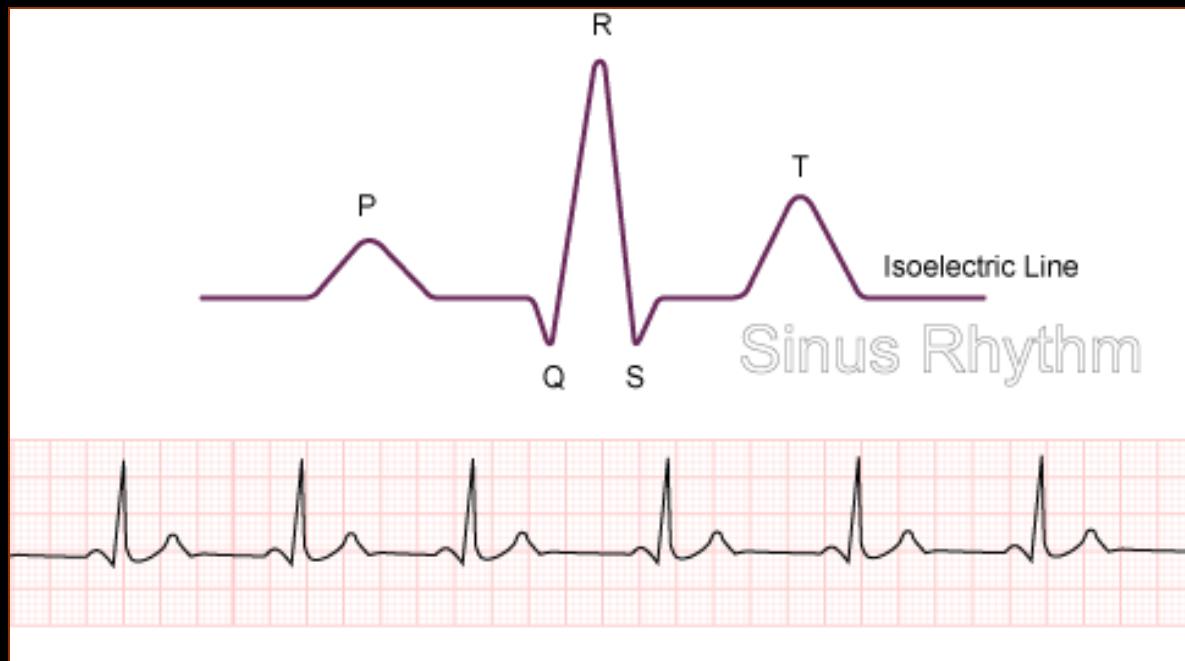


What is the heart rate shown in the tracing above?  
Click the answer below.

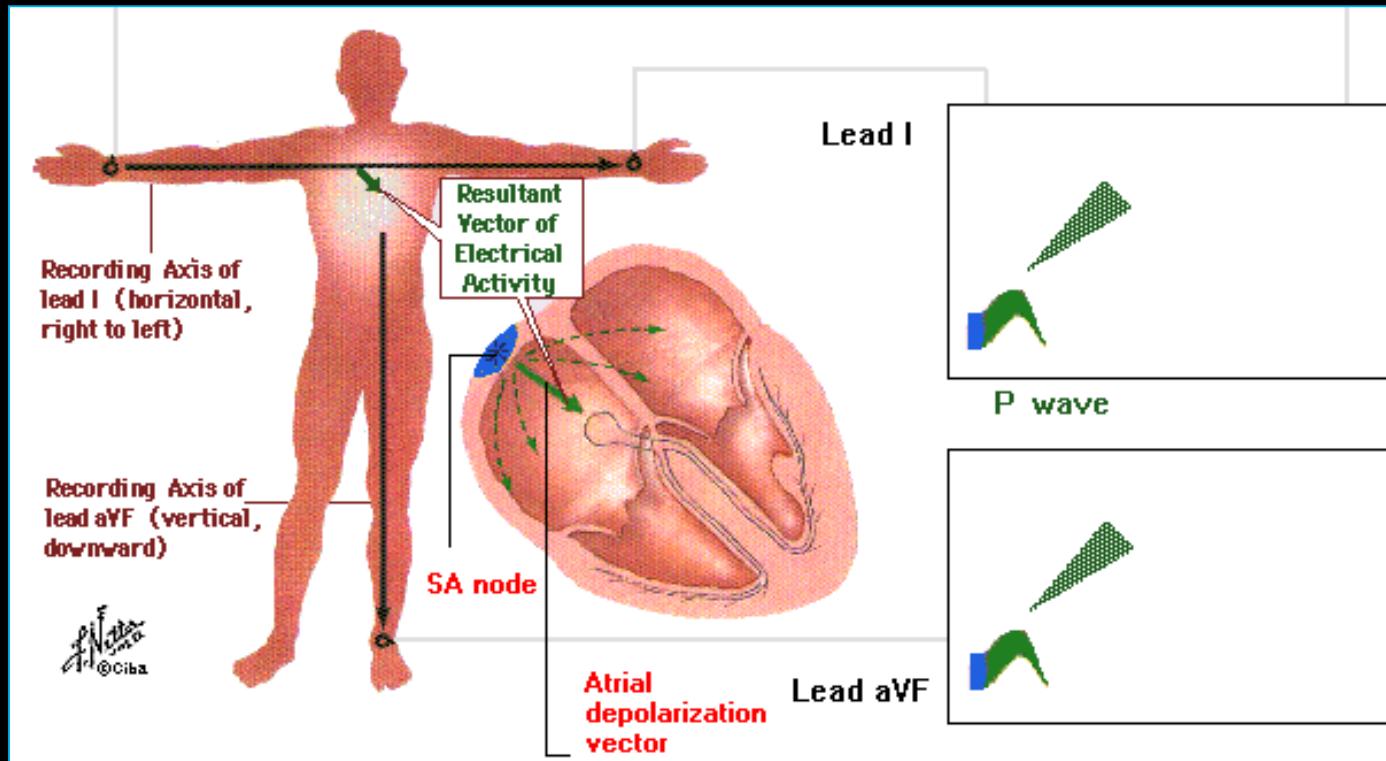
1. 50/minute
2. 67/minute
3. 75/minute
4. 83/minute

# II-Rhythm

## Sinus rhythm



# Normal sequence of atrial depolarization

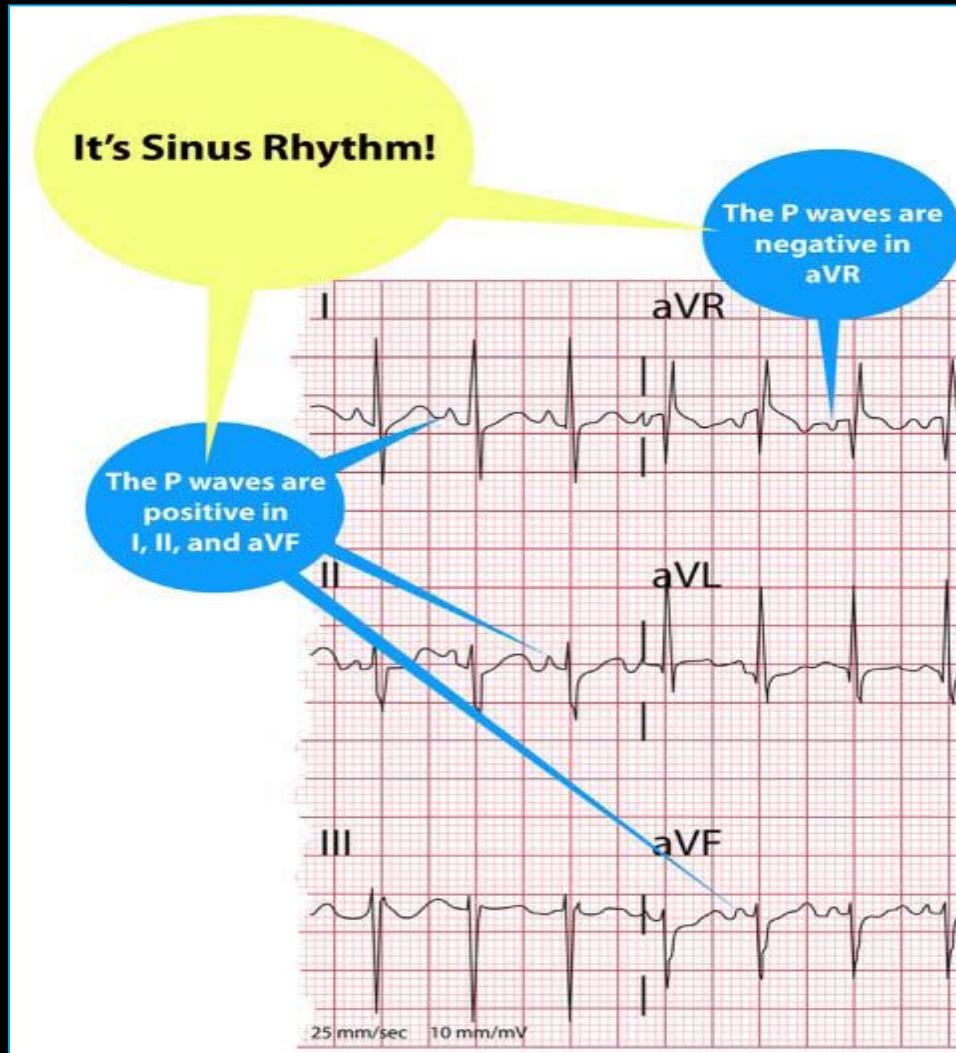


# P wave axis

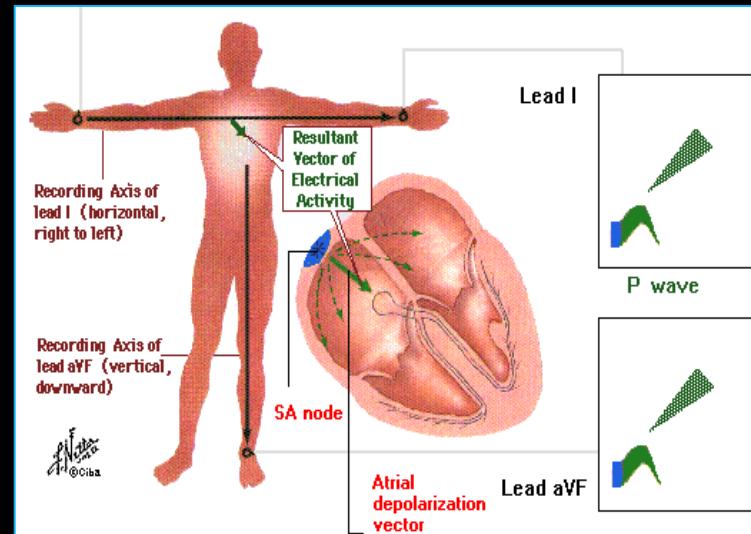
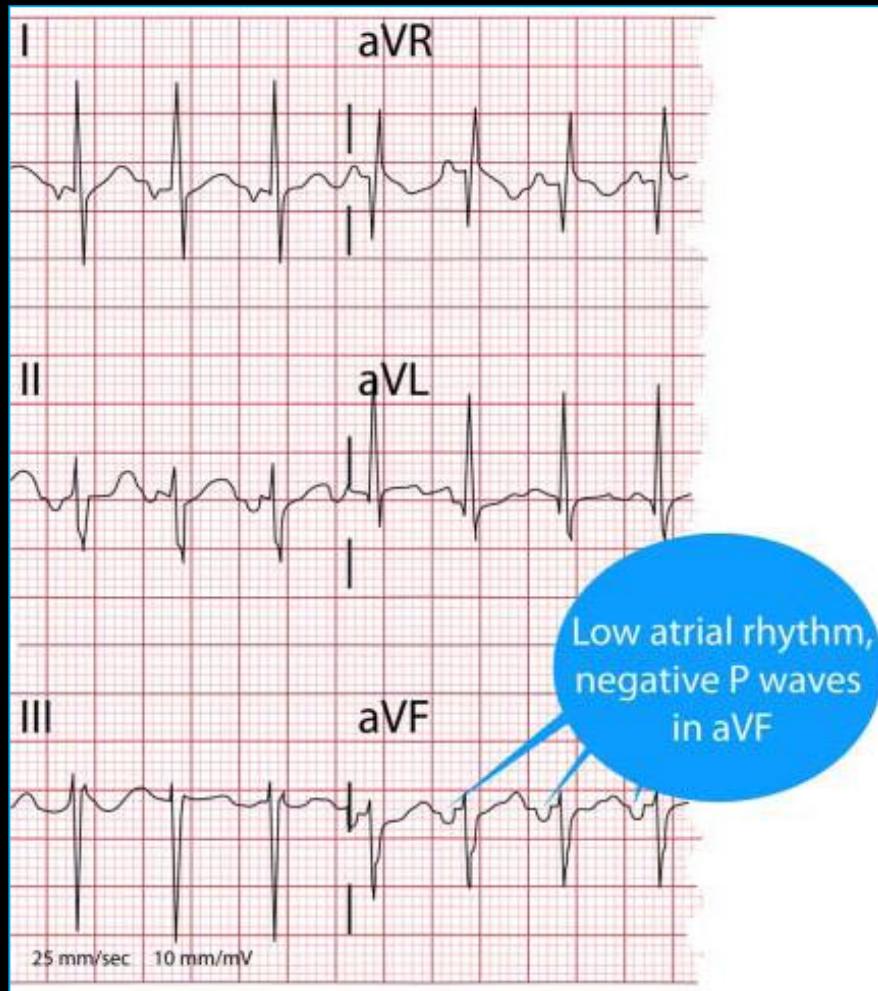
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- Atrial depolarization occurs from SA node
  - Wave passes right to left, top to bottom
  - Positive deflections in leads I (right to left) and aVF (top to bottom)
  - Normal P wave axis = 0-90 degrees
- Abnormal axis implies ectopic pacemaker
  - Coronary sinus or “low right atrial” rhythm is common benign finding, especially in teens
  - Positive in lead I, negative in aVF

# It is a sinus rhythm.. why ?



# It is a non-sinus rhythm



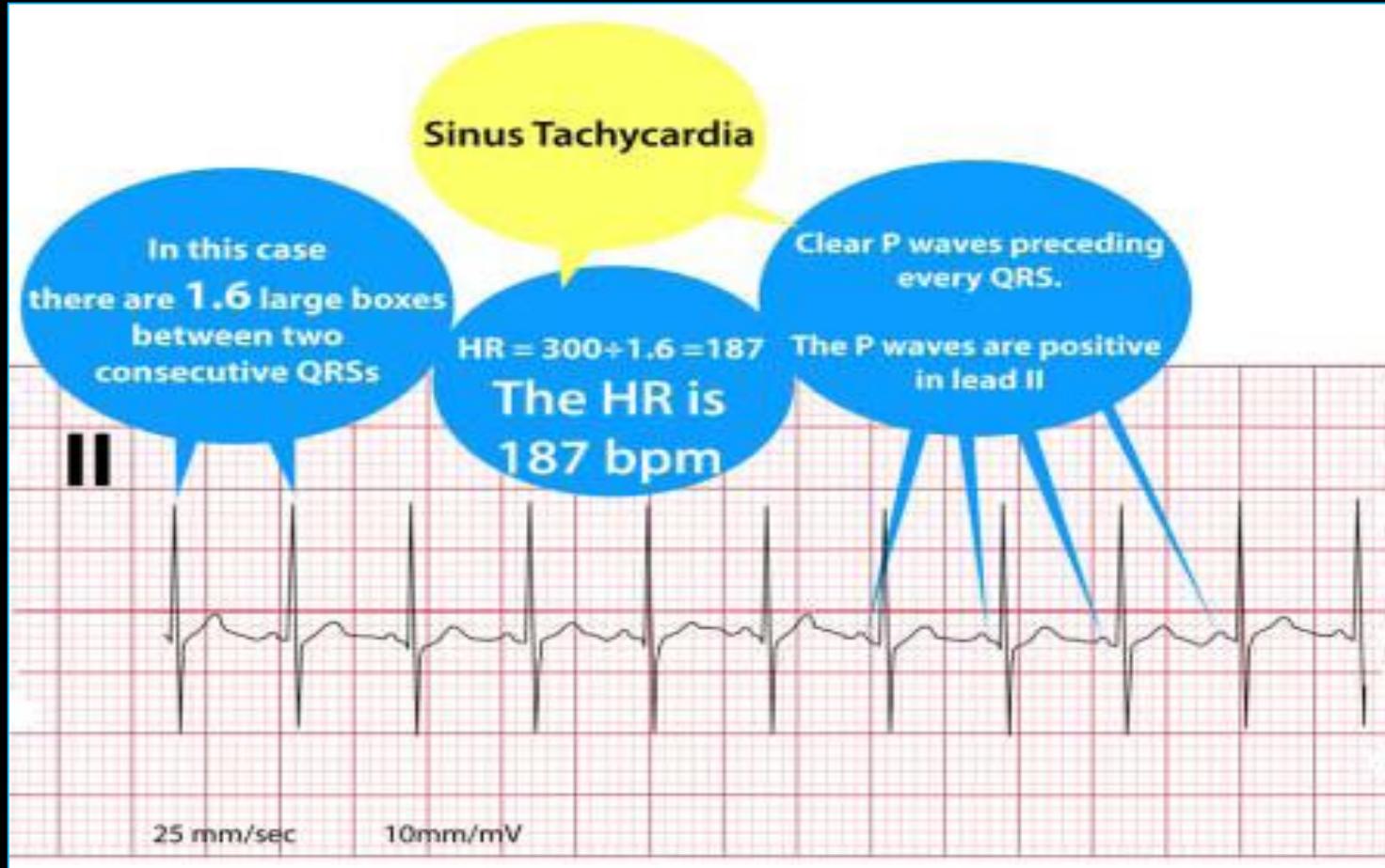
Sinus Bradycardia  
in an aerobically  
trained adolescent

In this case  
there are **6.5** large boxes  
between two  
consecutive QRSs

$$HR = 300 \div 6.5 = 46$$

**The HR is  
46 bpm**





## Sinus Arrhythmia

The Heart Rate varies with respiration  
rises with inspiration  
falls with expiration

The P waves and the PR intervals are normal



# What is the underling rhythm ?

---



# The 5 Requirements for Normal Sinus Rhythm :

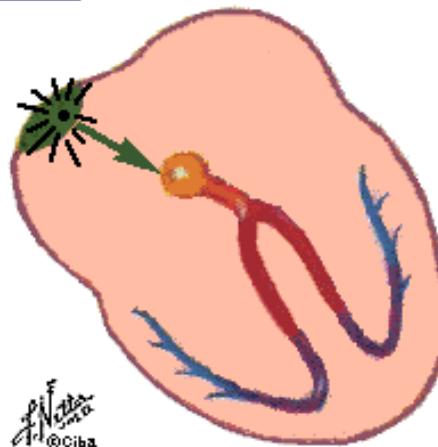
---

- P wave before every QRS.
- QRS following every P wave.
- Normal P wave axis.
- Normal PR interval is NOT required.
- Sinus rate within normal range for age.

## Normal Sinus Rhythm

A sinus origin is assumed if P waves are regular and upright in leads II, III, and aVF.\*

If the heart rate is 60 to 100/minute, Normal Sinus Rhythm is present.



Impulses originate at SA node  
AT NORMAL RATE \*



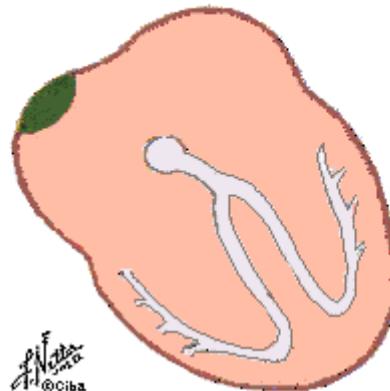
# Supraventricular or ventricular rhythm

This is an example of a supraventricular rhythm with normal intraventricular conduction: QRS <0.10 second (i.e., this is NOT a ventricular rhythm).\*

Differentiation between supraventricular and ventricular rhythms is made on the basis of the duration (width) of the QRS complex.\*

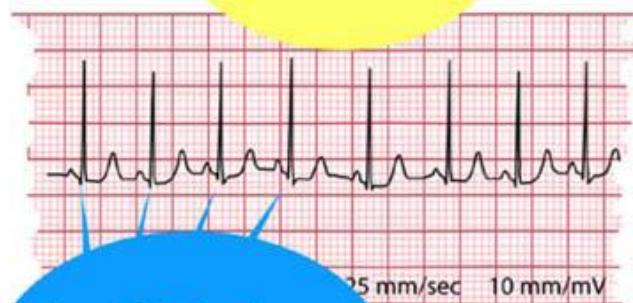
Supraventricular origin of impulse may be sinus,\* atrial,\* or junctional.\*

Impulse travels rapidly along conduction system.\*



A supraventricular rhythm characterized by brief (narrow) QRS duration (<2.5 small boxes)

**Normal  
QRS duration**



The QRS is about  
1 small box wide  
(0.04 sec or 40 msec)

**Wide QRS**



The QRS is  
3 small boxes wide  
(0.12 sec or 120 msec)

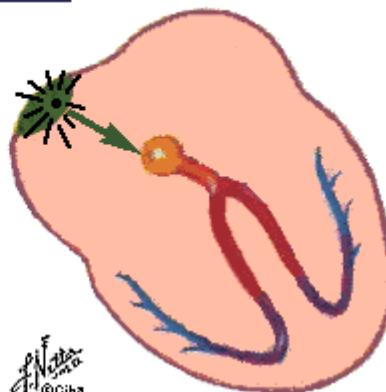


# Supraventricular rhythms

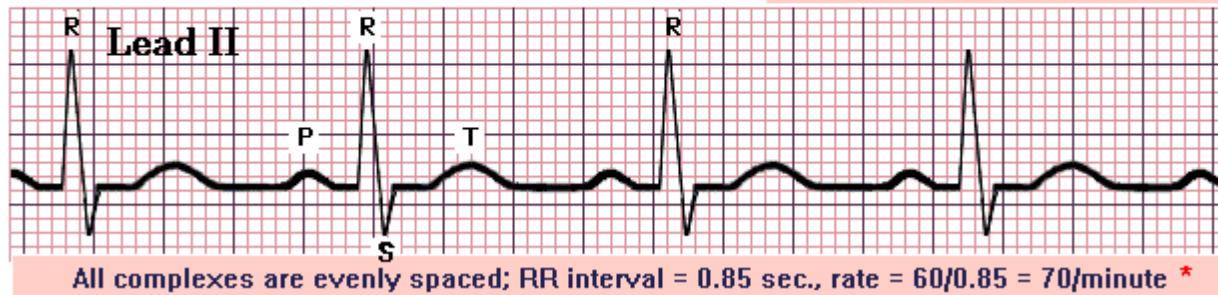
## Normal Sinus Rhythm

A sinus origin is assumed if P waves are regular and upright in leads II, III, and aVF.\*

If the heart rate is 60 to 100/minute, Normal Sinus Rhythm is present.



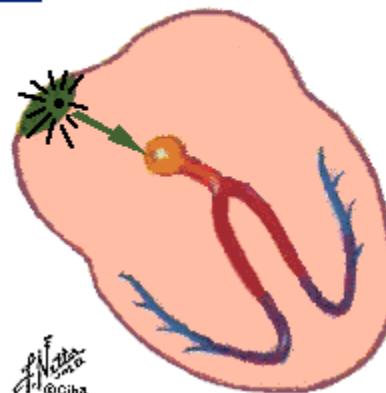
Impulses originate at SA node  
AT NORMAL RATE \*



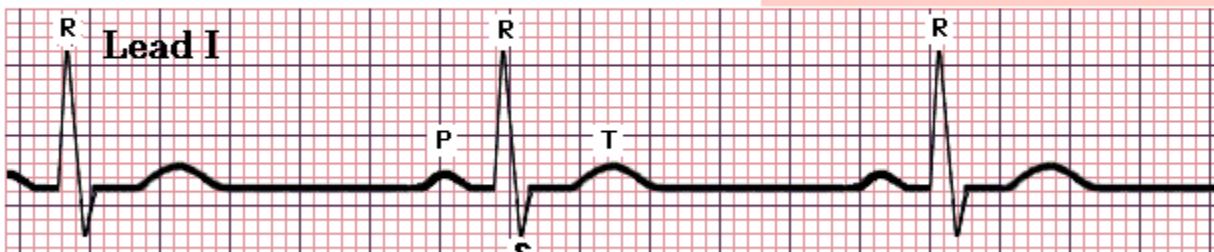
## Sinus Bradycardia

If the rate is less than 60/minute, Sinus Bradycardia is present.

This may be caused by increased vagal or parasympathetic tone, or occur in the acute stages of myocardial infarction, particularly diaphragmatic infarction.



Impulses originate at SA node \*  
AT SLOW RATE

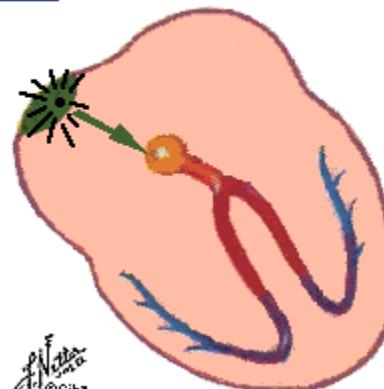


All complexes are evenly spaced; RR interval = 1.24 sec., rate = 48/minute \*

## Sinus Tachycardia

If the rate is greater than 100/minute, Sinus Tachycardia is present.

Sinus Tachycardia is most often a physiological response to exercise, fever, pain, fear, or other stresses, but may also be a clue to occult congestive heart failure or other cardiac decompensation.



Impulses originate at SA node  
AT RAPID RATE \*



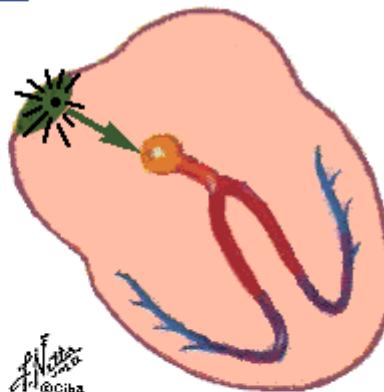
All complexes are evenly spaced; RR interval = 0.54 sec., rate = 111/minute \*

## Sinus Arrhythmia \*

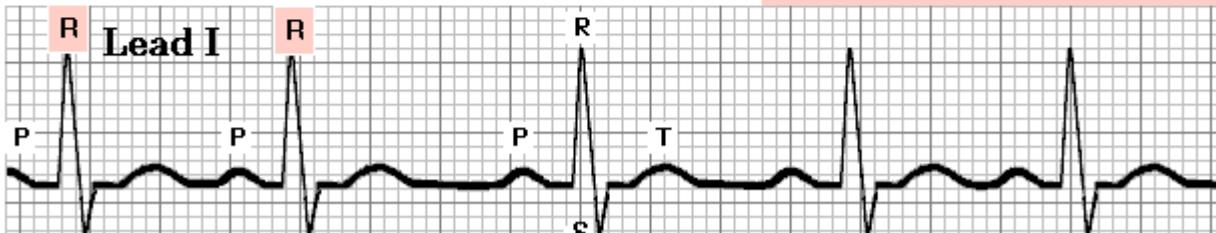
If all P waves are identical and upright in leads II, III, and aVF, but rhythmically irregular, further measurement is necessary.

If the longest PP or RR interval exceeds the shortest such interval by 0.16 second (i.e., four small boxes) or more, Sinus Arrhythmia is diagnosed.

In the tracing shown, the interval between the first and second P (or R) waves is 16 small boxes, or 0.64 second.\* The interval between the second and third P (or R) waves is 21 small boxes, or 0.84 second. The difference exceeds 0.16 second, and thus Sinus Arrhythmia is diagnosed.



Impulses originate at SA node  
AT VARYING RATE \*

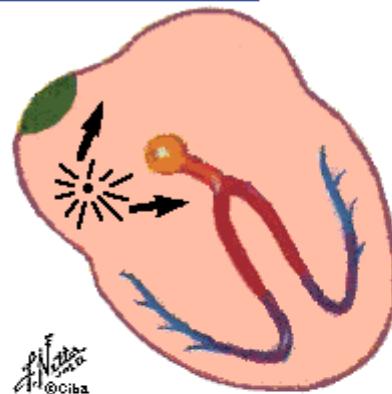


All complexes are normal but rhythmically irregular. Longest PP or RR interval exceeds shortest by 0.16 second or more.

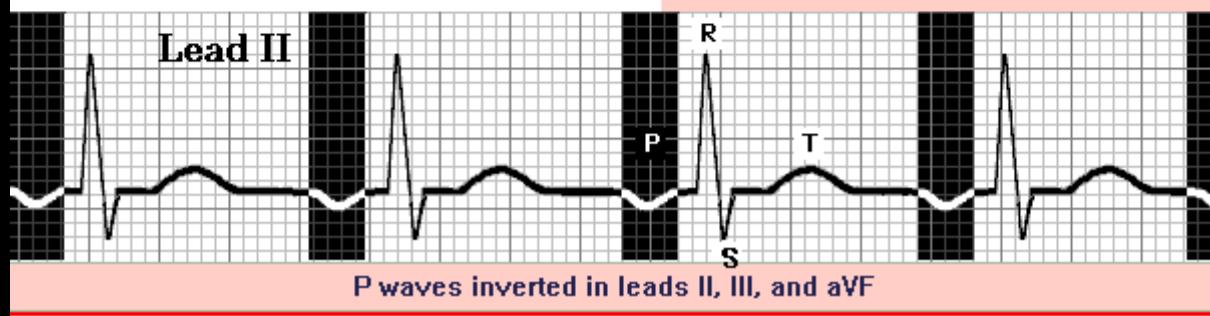
## Nonsinus Atrial (Coronary Sinus) Rhythm

If all P waves are identical and regular but inverted in leads II, III, and aVF, the P wave axis is highly abnormal, implying an origin other than the SA node, located in the upper right corner of the atrium.

This is a Nonsinus Atrial Rhythm.\*

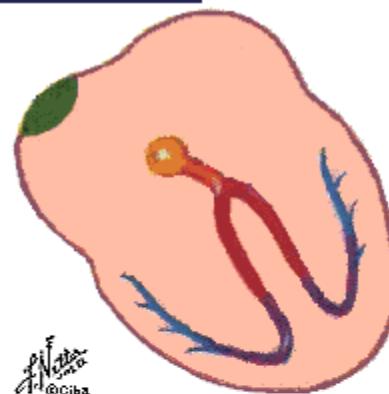


Impulses originate low in atrium; travel RETROGRADE as well as DISTALLY \*

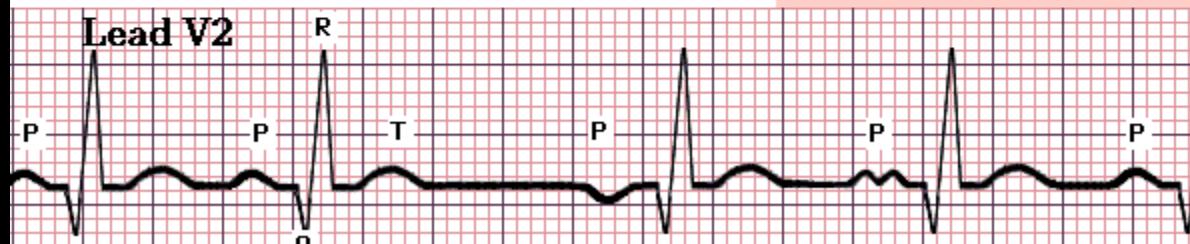


## Wandering atrial pacemaker

If the contour or shape of P waves varies from beat to beat in a single lead, often associated with variation of the PR interval and the PP, and thus the RR intervals, it seems likely that the site of atrial depolarization is varying (i.e., Wandering Atrial Pacemaker).\*



Impulses originate from  
VARYING POINTS IN ATRIA \*



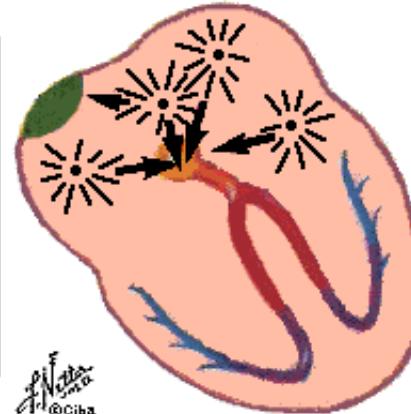
Variation in P wave contour, PR interval, PP, and thus RR intervals \*

## Multifocal Atrial Tachycardia (MAT)



### NOTE \*

The differentiation from wandering atrial pacemaker (WAP) is that the rate is much increased in MAT, usually to more than 100/minute.



Usually associated with severe pulmonary disease

Impulses originate IRREGULARLY and RAPIDLY AT DIFFERENT POINTS IN ATRIA \*

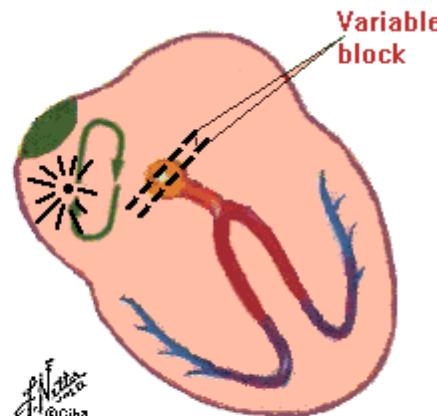


P wave contours, PR intervals, PP, and thus RR intervals all may vary \*

## Atrial Flutter

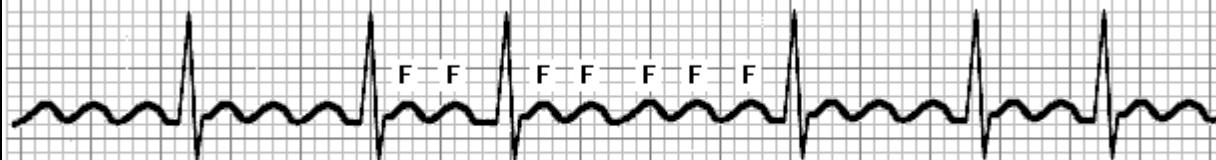
Impulse travels in circular course in atria, setting up regular, rapid (220 to 300/minute) flutter (F) waves without any isoelectric baseline.\*

Some degree of AV block is usually present.\*



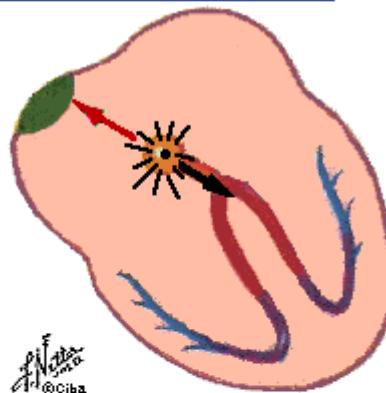
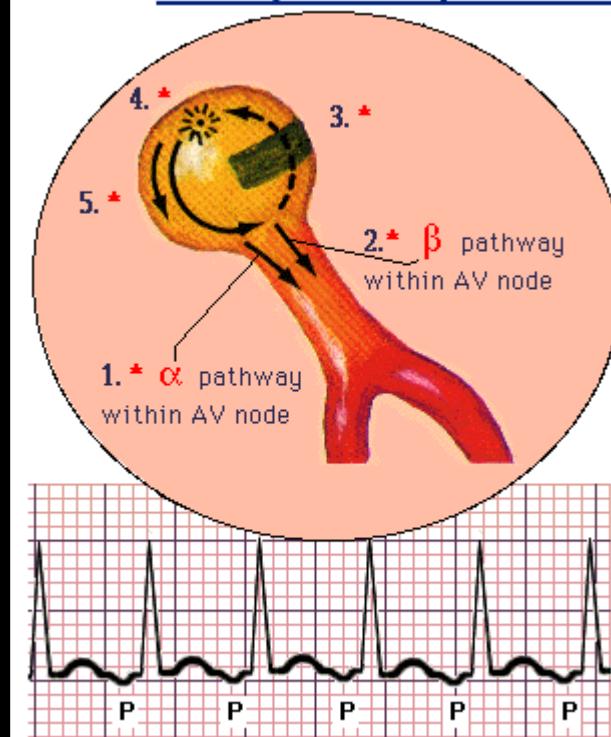
\*

### Lead II



Rapid flutter (F) waves. Ventricular rate (QRS) regular or irregular and slower (depending on degree of block).

## Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia (PSVT) \*



Impulses RECYCLE repeatedly in and near AV node due to slowing in area of UNIDIRECTIONAL BLOCK.\*

Atrial rate 160 to 220/minute.

P waves regular and often inverted.

QRS regular or irregular.

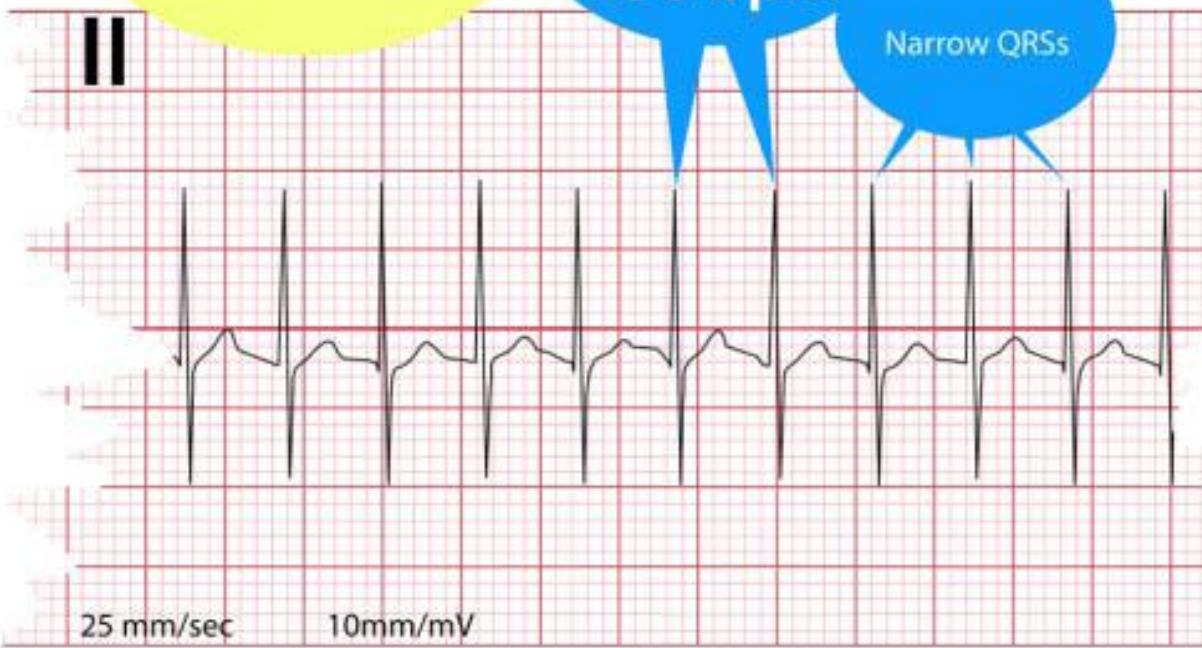
**SVT**

Supraventricular Tachycardia

$$HR = 300 \div 1.2 = 250$$

The HR is  
250 bpm

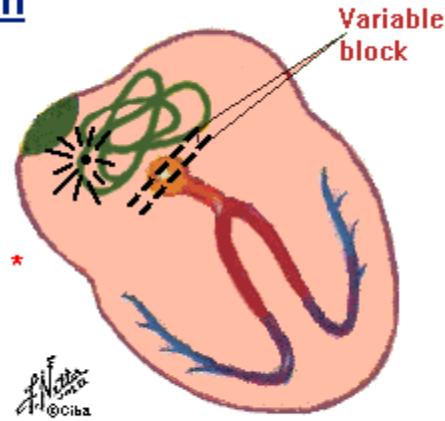
Narrow QRSs



## Atrial Fibrillation

Impulses take chaotic, random pathways in the atria.

There is no organized electric activity (and hence no effective pumping action) in the atria.

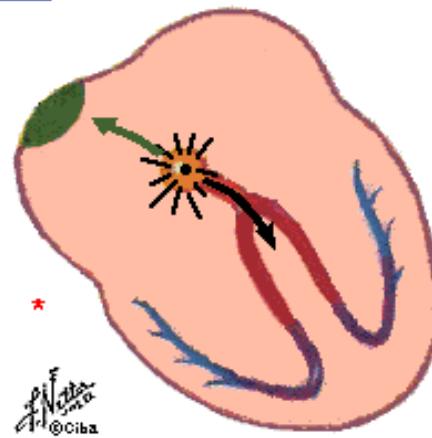


Baseline coarsely or finely irregular; P wave absent. Ventricular response (QRS) irregular, slow, or rapid.\*

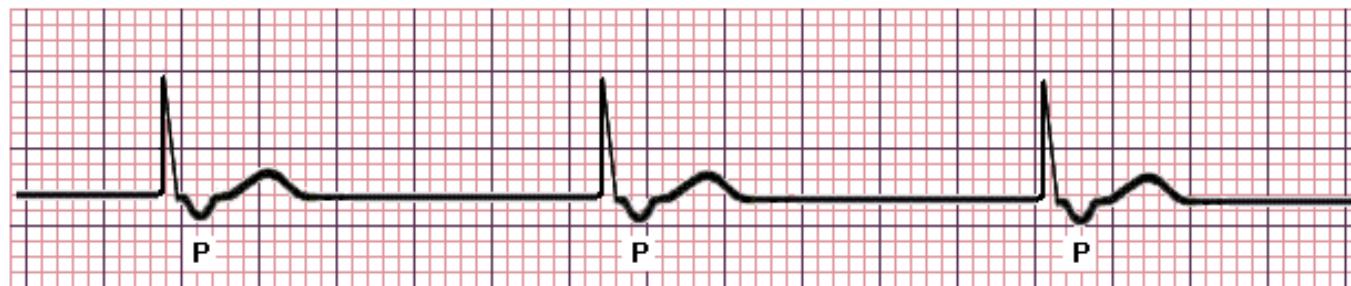


## Junctional Rhythm

Impulses originate in AV node with RETROGRADE and ANTEGRADE transmission.



P wave, often inverted, may be buried in QRS or follow QRS. Rate slow. QRS narrow.

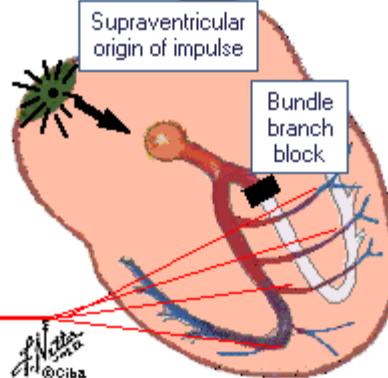


## Intraventricular Conduction Defect (IVCD)

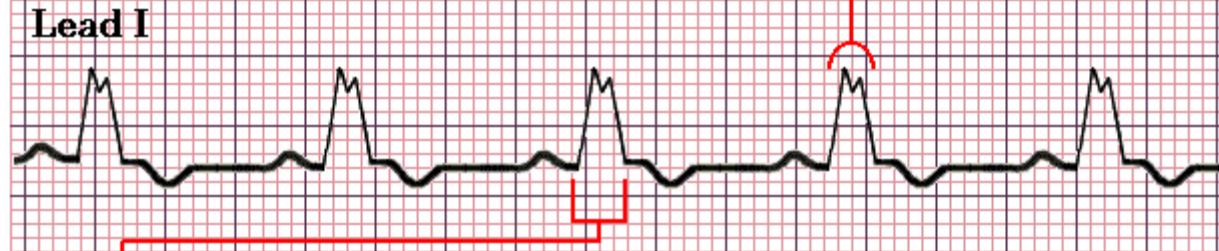
Intraventricular conduction defect (IVCD), including right or left bundle branch block, is a supraventricular rhythm.

IVCD has a wide QRS complex which is characteristic of ventricular rhythms, but the impulse is of supraventricular origin.

Conduction below block occurs by slow spread from uninvolved side \*



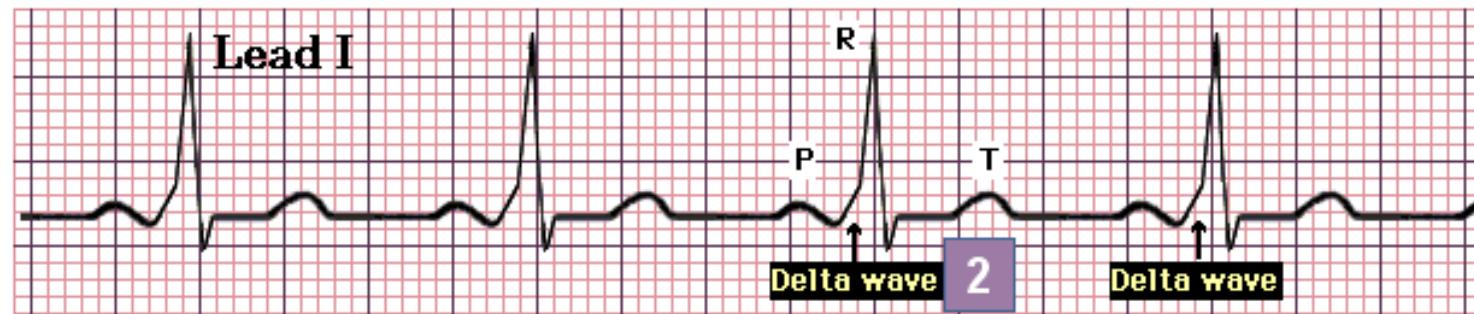
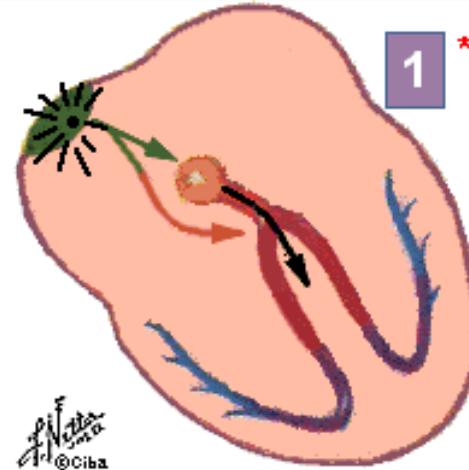
### Lead I

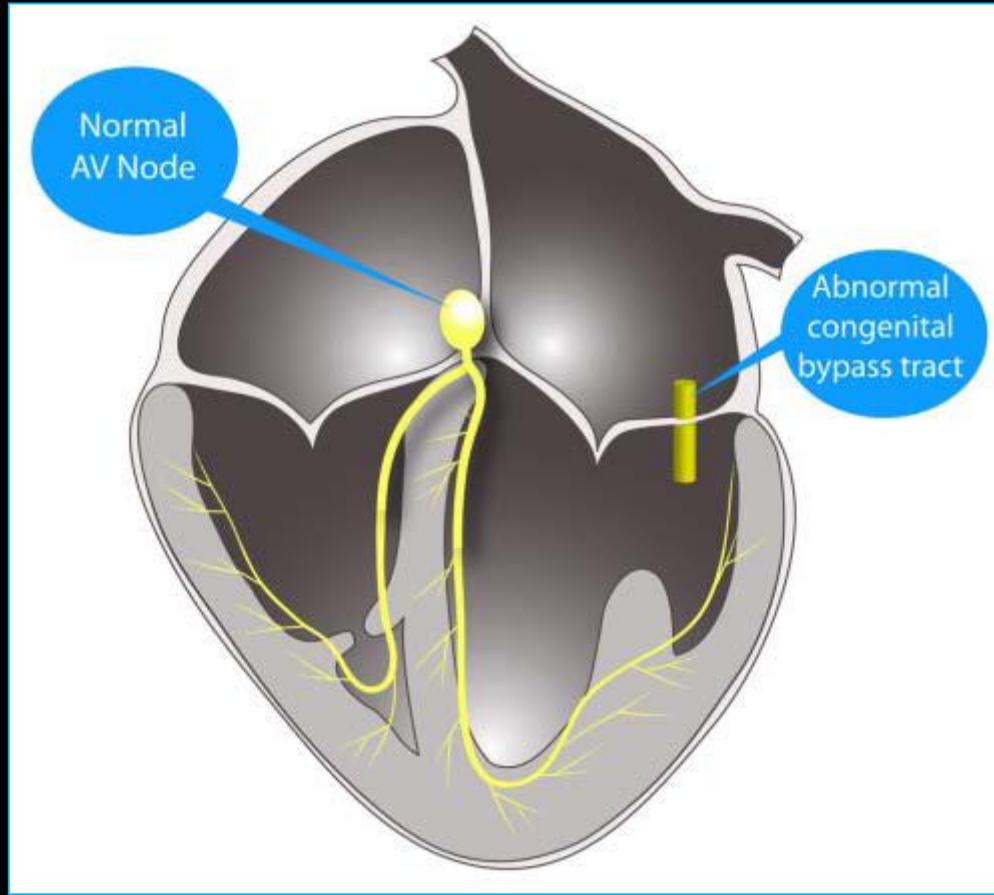


Wide QRS (>2.5 small boxes)\*, often notched, preceded by P wave with normal PR interval

# Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome

Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome is a supraventricular rhythm which has a wide QRS complex because of preexcitation.





# Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome

## NOTE 1 \*

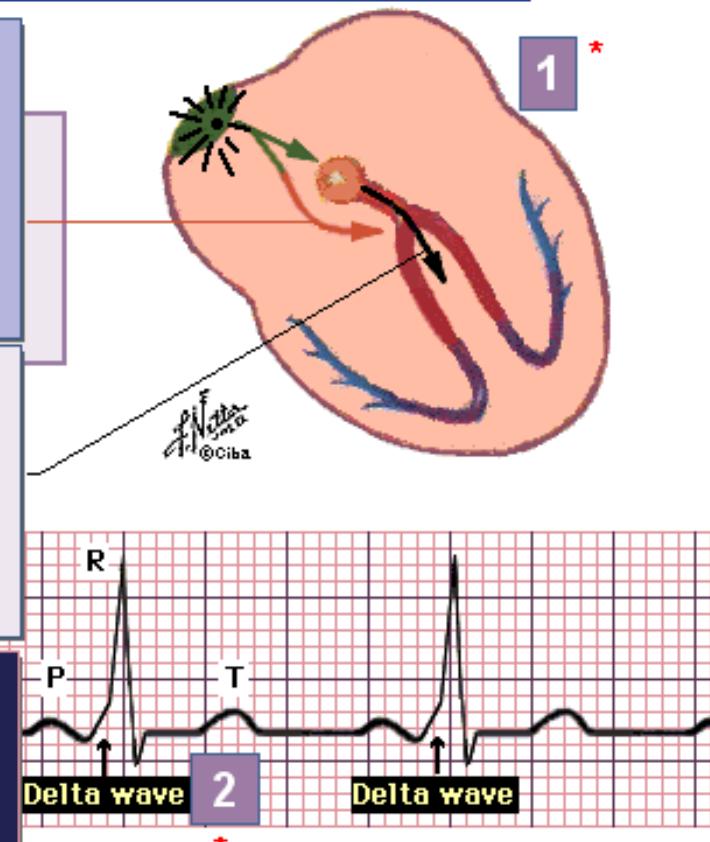
Impulses originate at SA node and preexcite peripheral conduction system and ventricular muscle via bundle of Kent without delay at AV node, thus producing the early slurred upstroke (the delta wave) of the QRS complex. (In type B, impulses may pass via posterior accessory bundle.)

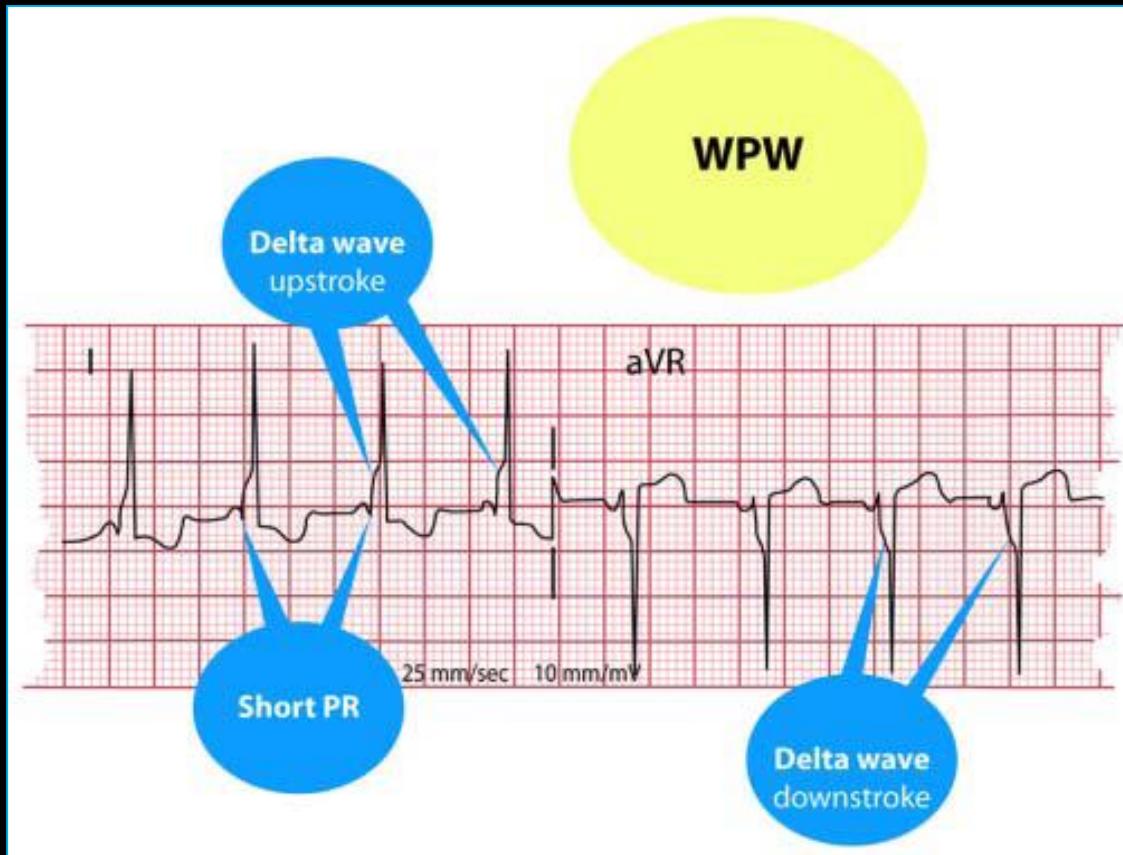
## NOTE 1 (cont.) \*

After normal delay at AV node, impulses also arrive at ventricles via normal route to continue depolarization. Thus, the QRS tends to be prolonged, not because it lasted longer, but because it started earlier as a result of preexcitation.

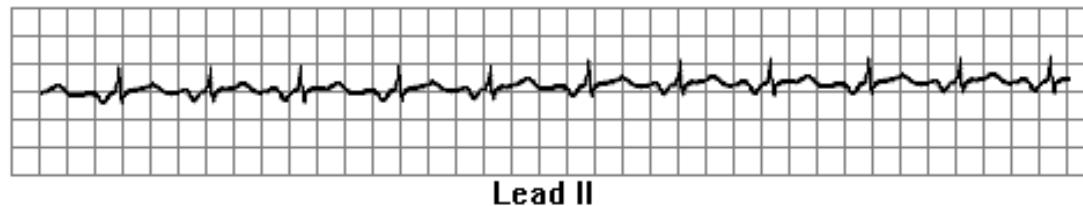
## NOTE 2 \*

P wave is immediately followed by short delta wave, producing slurred upstroke on wide QRS with short or no PR interval.





How would you classify this ECG tracing?



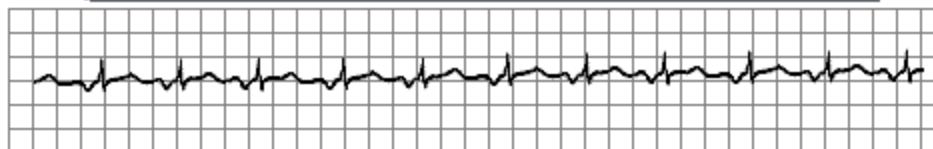
Lead II

1. Normal rhythm
2. Supraventricular arrhythmia
3. Ventricular arrhythmia
4. Conduction defect
5. Atrial premature contraction

### Self-Test 3

### Supraventricular Rhythms

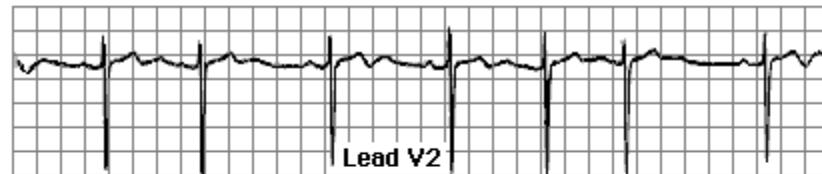
Good.



Lead II

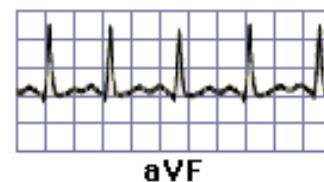
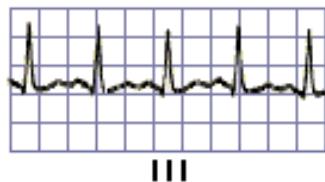
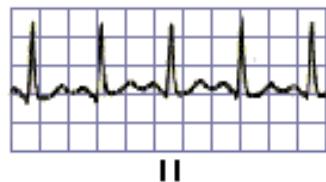
- |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. Normal rhythm</p> <p>✓ 2. Supraventricular arrhythmia</p> <p>3. Ventricular arrhythmia</p> <p>4. Conduction defect</p> <p>5. Atrial premature contraction</p> | <p>a. Sinus tachycardia</p> <p>b. Sinus bradycardia</p> <p>c. Sinus arrhythmia</p> <p>d. Nonsinus atrial rhythm</p> <p>e. Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia</p> <p>f. Sinus arrest</p> <p>g. Wandering atrial pacemaker</p> <p>h. Atrial flutter</p> <p>i. Atrial fibrillation</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The following is a rhythm strip of lead V2. How would you classify this tracing? Use hints if you need to.



1. Sinus arrhythmia, because PP intervals vary
2. Multifocal atrial tachycardia, because of several P wave shapes
3. Normal sinus rhythm, because rate is <100/minute
4. Nonsinus atrial rhythm
5. Wandering atrial pacemaker, because of (1) & (2) and more

The following portions of a tracing indicate that SINUS TACHYCARDIA is present. Click the statement below that best explains why this is true. Use hints if you need to.



1. All complexes normal, evenly spaced, rate <60/minute
2. Impulses originate at SA node at varying rate
3. P waves are regular and upright in leads II, III, and aVF
4. All complexes normal, evenly spaced, rate >100/minute
5. All complexes normal, unevenly spaced, rate >100/minute

# Ventricular rhythms

# Idioventricular rhythm

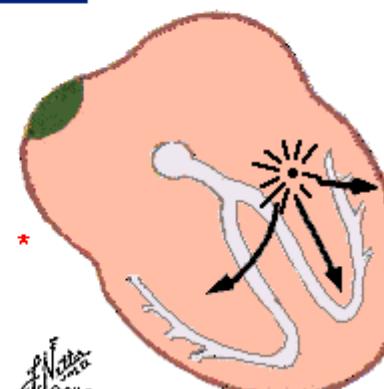
Mod. 2, Sect. 2, Cd. 3 of 10

### Idioventricular Rhythm

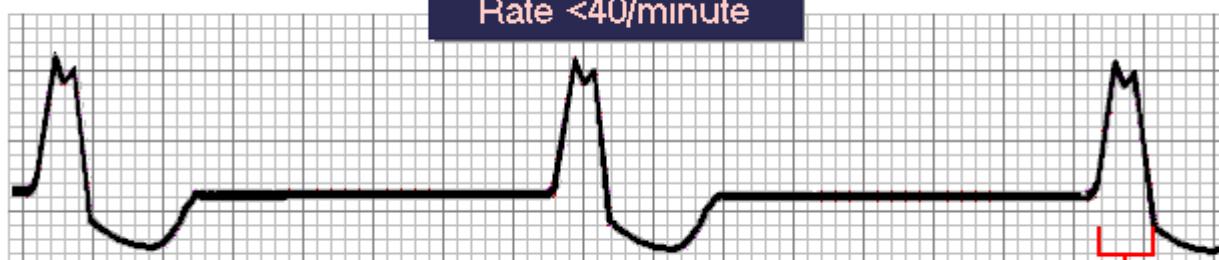
This is an example of a ventricular rhythm with wide QRS (>0.10 second).\*

The impulse is of ventricular origin, which explains the absence of normal, upright P waves associated with QRS complexes.

Typically, the T wave will be opposite in direction to that of the QRS.



Rate <40/minute

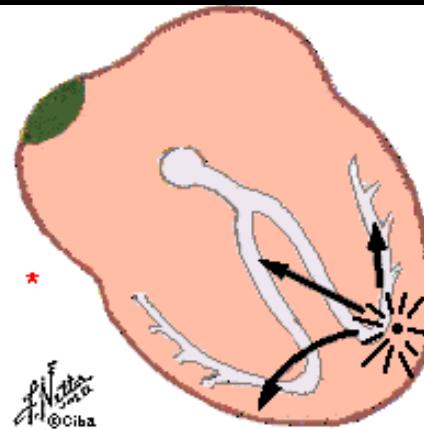


Wide QRS (>2.5 small boxes). No P waves.

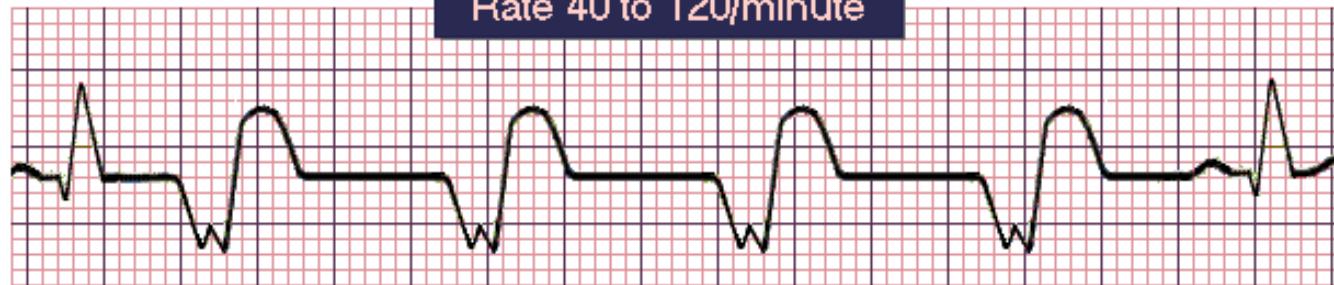
# Accelerated Idioventricular rhythm

This is a ventricular rhythm characterized by wide QRS complexes (>0.10 second), and an absence of normal, upright P waves regularly preceding (i.e., related to) the QRS complex.

With its wide, bizarre complexes, it can resemble, but is less dangerous than ventricular tachycardia (covered on the next card).



Rate 40 to 120/minute



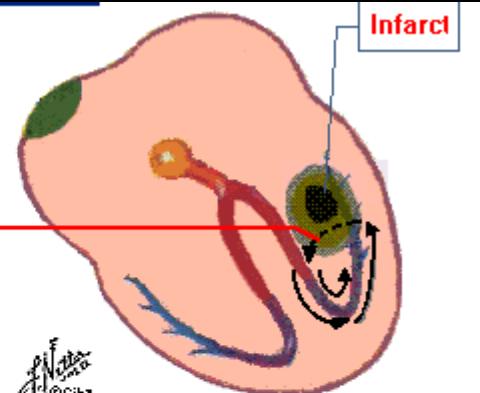
# Ventricular tachycardia

**Characteristics of ventricular tachycardia:**

- Wide QRS complexes (>0.10 second)
- No P wave (ventricular impulse origin)

**Possible cause of ventricular tachycardia:**

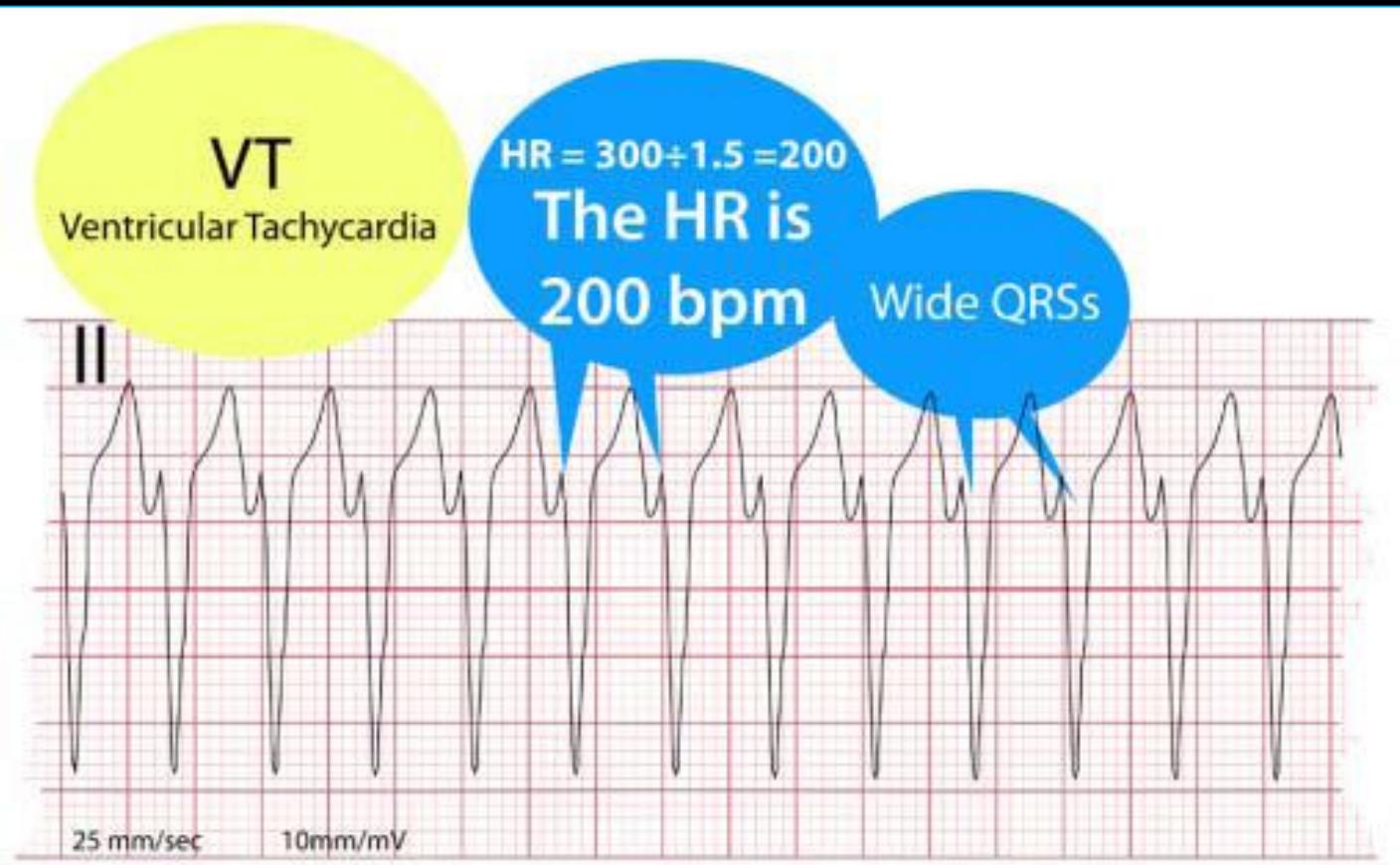
Slowed conduction in margin of ischemic area permits circular course of impulse and reentry with repetitive depolarization.



Rate >140/minute

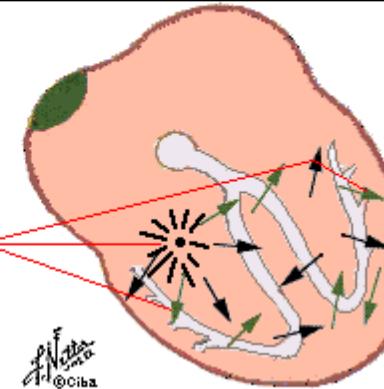


Rapid, bizarre, wide QRS complexes



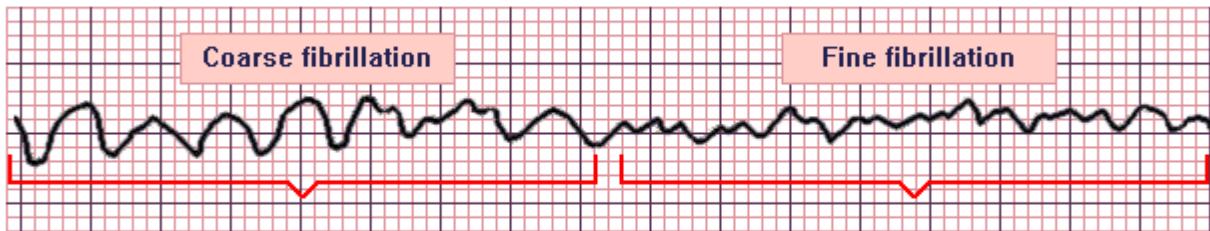
# Ventricular fibrillation

Chaotic ventricular depolarization (no P wave)



The diagram illustrates ventricular fibrillation. A cross-section of the heart shows multiple small, localized areas of chaotic ventricular depolarization, indicated by green arrows pointing in various directions from a central point. A red asterisk (\*) points to one such area. The heart's chambers are shaded in light orange. A small copyright notice '©Ciba' is visible near the bottom left of the heart diagram.

Coarse fibrillation      Fine fibrillation



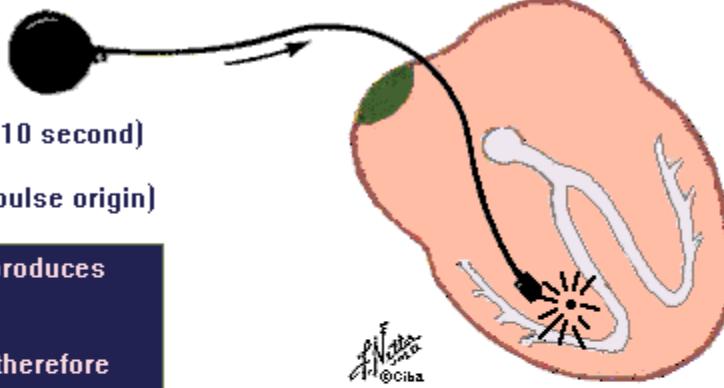
The ECG strip displays two segments. The first segment, labeled 'Coarse fibrillation', shows large, irregular undulations of the baseline. The second segment, labeled 'Fine fibrillation', shows smaller, more frequent undulations. Both segments lack the characteristic sharp peaks of QRS complexes. Red brackets at the bottom indicate the duration of each fibrillation type.

Fibrillation may be associated with either coarse or fine chaotic undulations of the ECG baseline, but no true QRS complexes. Indeterminate rate.

# Pacemaker rhythm

Mod. 2, Sect. 2, Cd. 7 of 10

**Pacer Rhythm**



The diagram shows a cross-section of the heart. A black wire from an external pacemaker is inserted through a vein into the right ventricle. A small electrode at the tip of the wire stimulates the myocardium, indicated by a starburst symbol. The heart is shaded orange, and the pacemaker lead is shown as a black line entering from the top left.

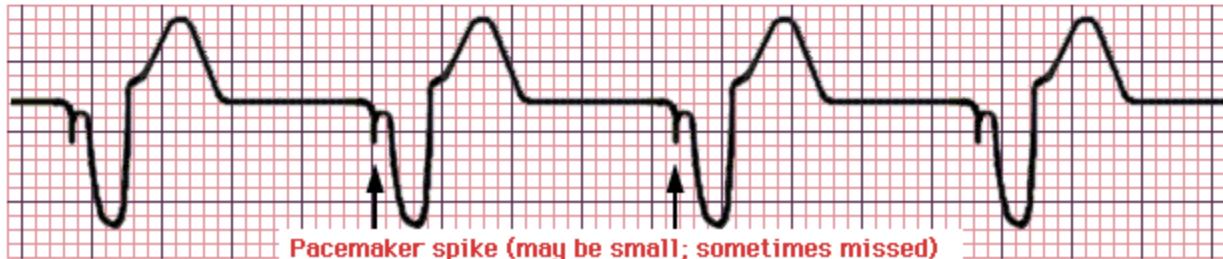
Wide QRS complexes (>0.10 second)

No P wave (ventricular impulse origin)

Transvenous pacemaker produces beats in right ventricle \*

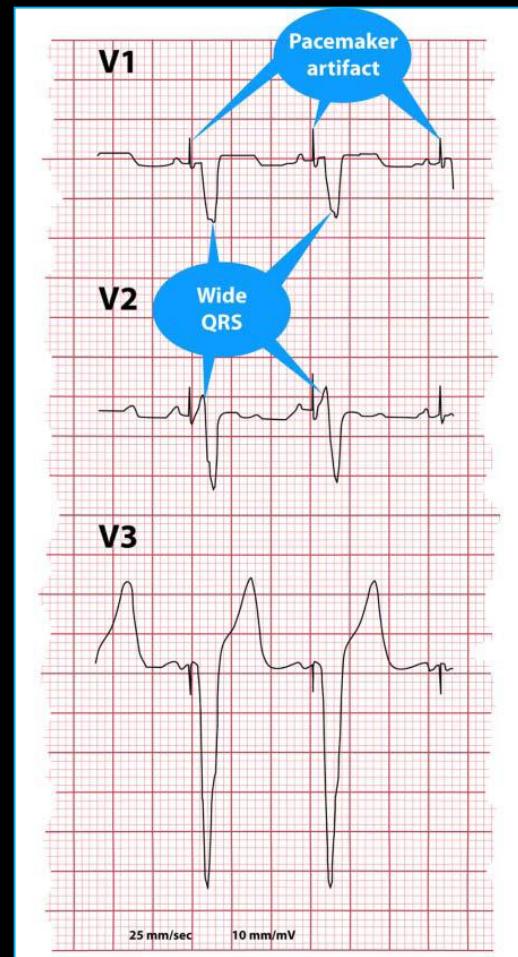
Not supraventricular, and therefore wide.

©Ciba



An ECG strip on red grid paper displays several wide QRS complexes. Two small arrows point to the narrow spikes preceding each wide complex, labeled "Pacemaker spike (may be small; sometimes missed)".

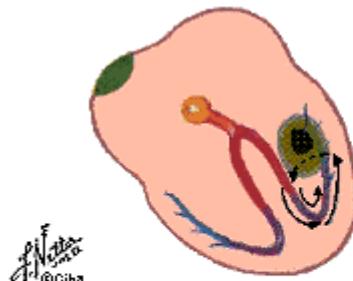
# Pacemaker rhythm



# Self tests

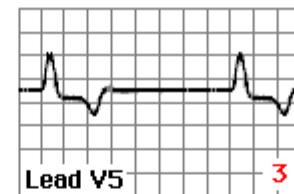
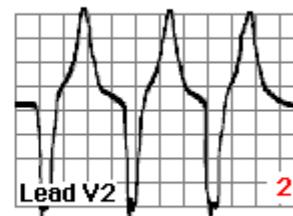
## Self-Test 2

**Click the tracing  
that corresponds to  
the cardiac rhythm  
shown below.**



Ventricular Tachycardia

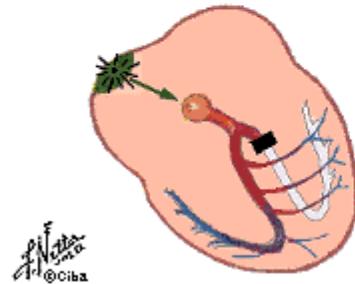
## Ventricular Rhythms



# Self tests

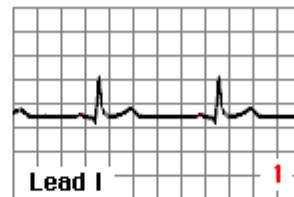
## Self-Test 3

Click the tracing  
that corresponds to  
the cardiac rhythm  
shown below.

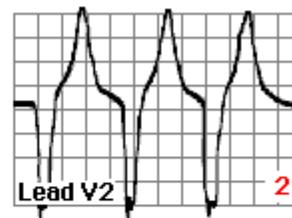


Intraventricular Conduction Defect

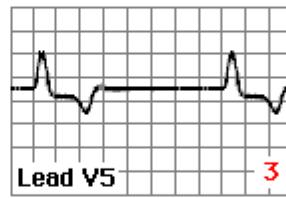
## Ventricular Rhythms



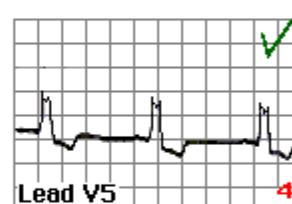
Lead I



Lead V2



Lead V5



Lead V5



Lead V2



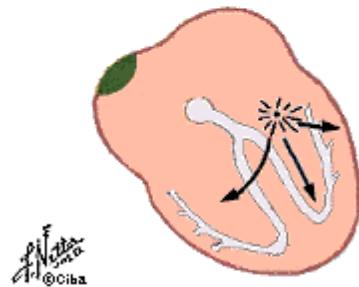
Lead V4

✓

# Self tests

## Self-Test 4

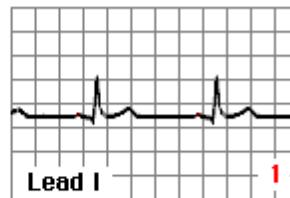
Click the tracing that corresponds to the cardiac rhythm shown below.



Idioventricular Rhythm

Can you find an accelerated IVR?

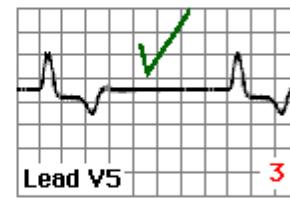
## Ventricular Rhythms



Lead I



Lead V2



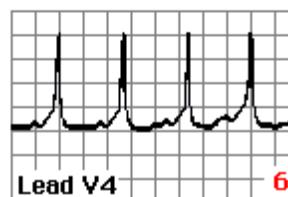
Lead V5



Lead V5



Lead V2



Lead V4

1

2

3

4

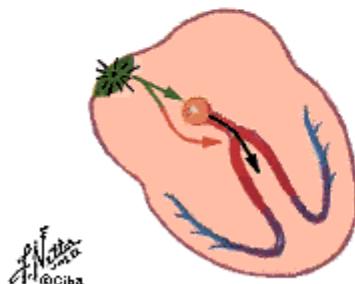
5

6

# Self tests

## Self-Test 5

Click the tracing that corresponds to the cardiac rhythm shown below.

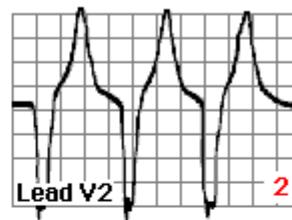


Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome

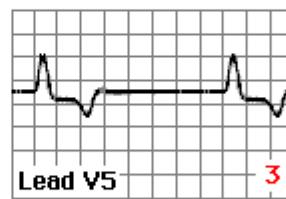
## Ventricular Rhythms



Lead I 1



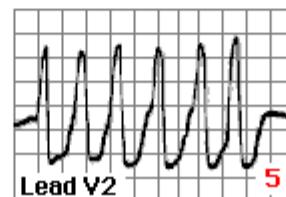
Lead V2 2



Lead V5 3



Lead V5 4



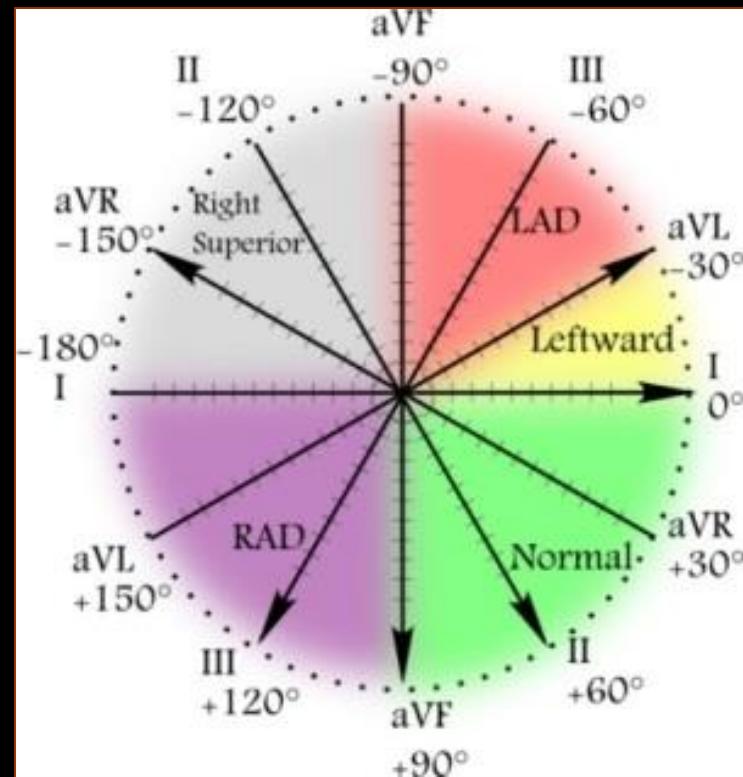
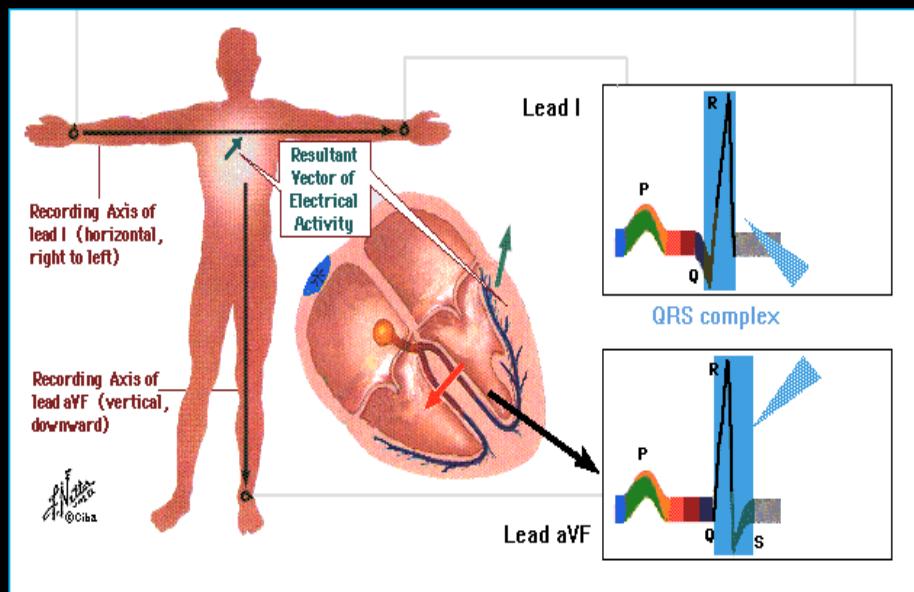
Lead V2 5



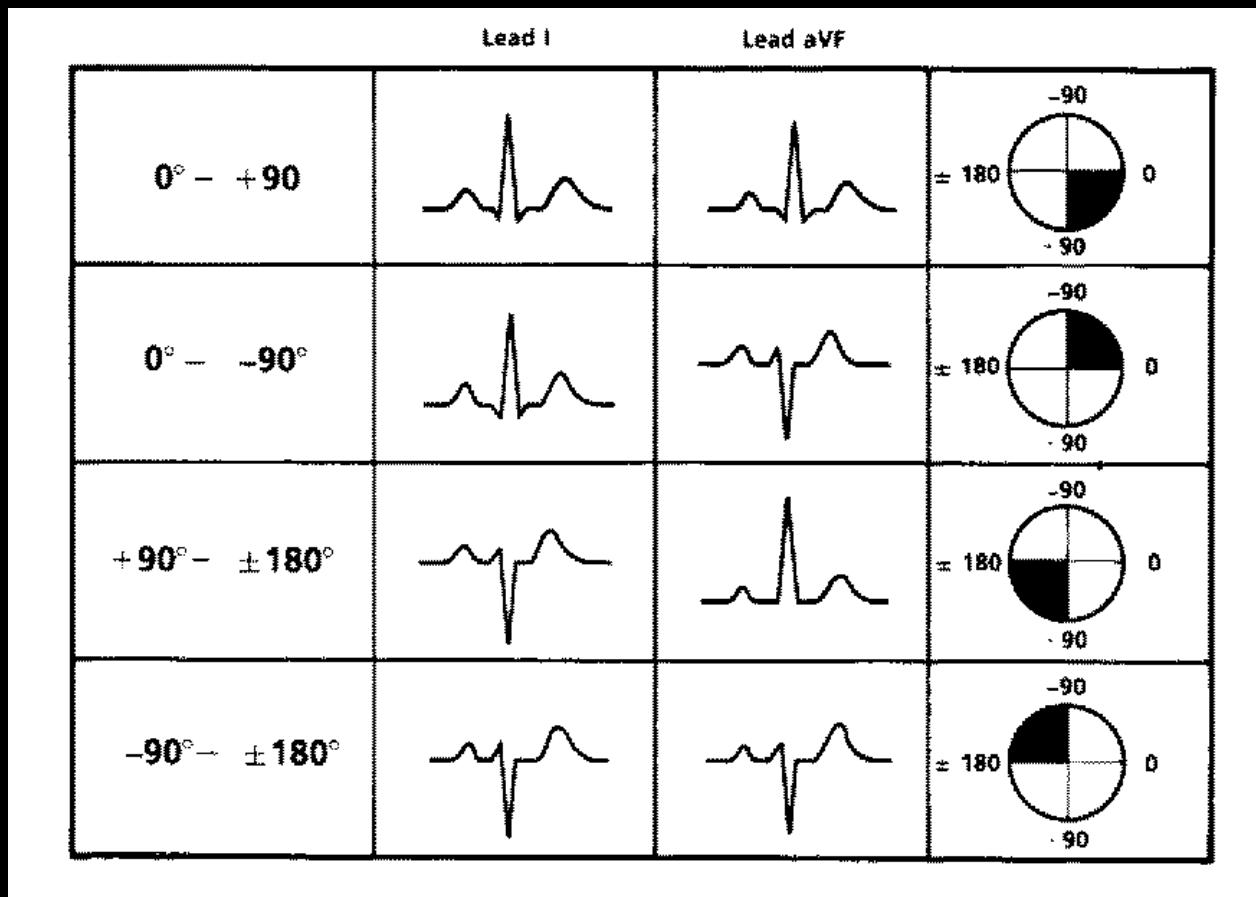
Lead V4 6



# III- QRS Axis

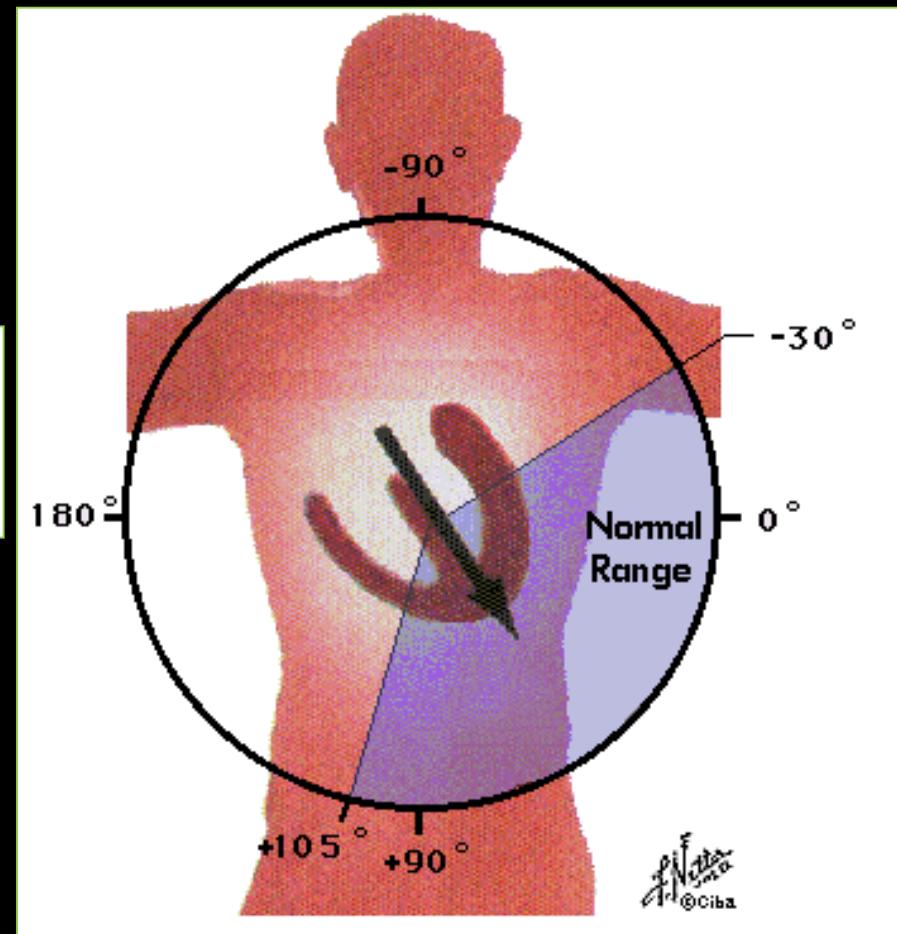


# Quadrant determination



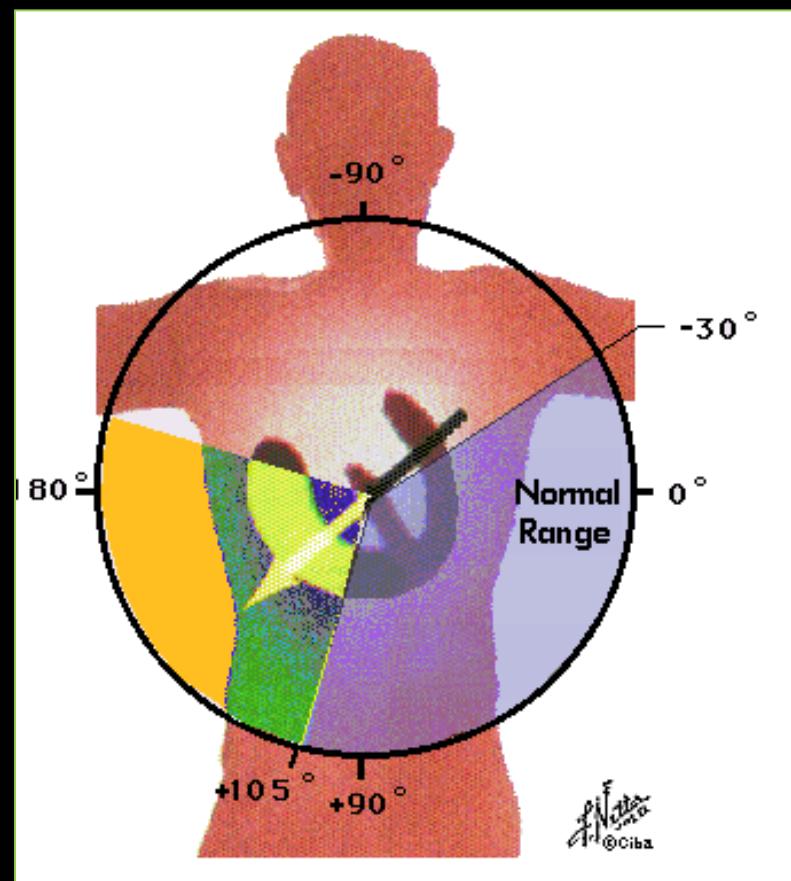
# Normal electrical axis

The normal axis of the QRS is from +105 deg. to -30 deg. \*



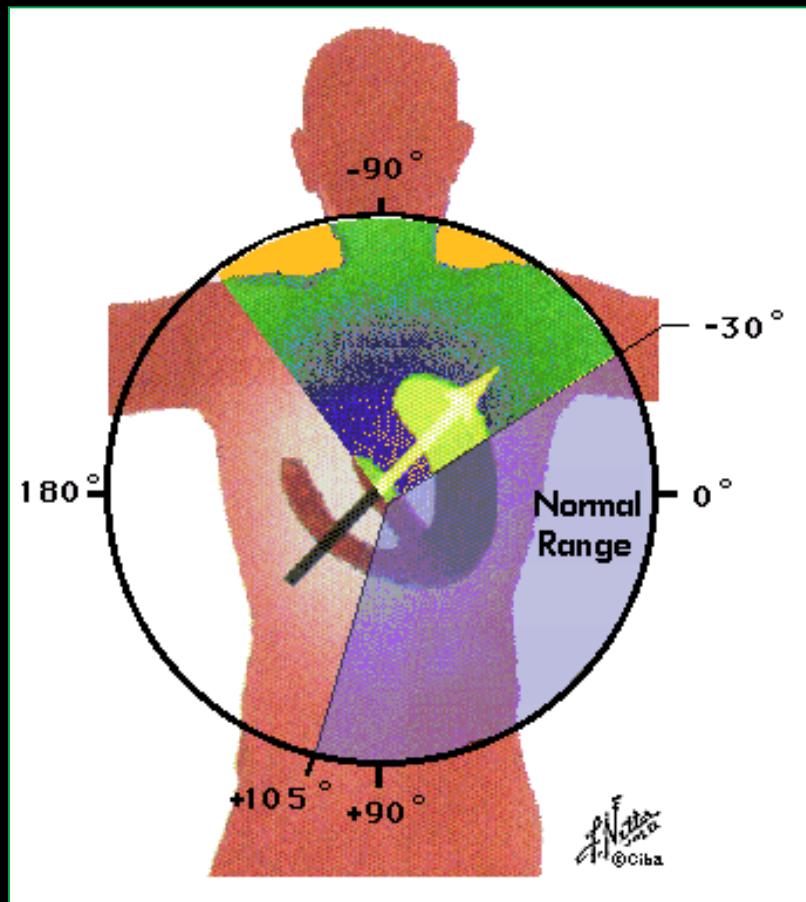
# Right axis deviation

Right axis deviation is evident when the electrical axis is greater than +105 deg.



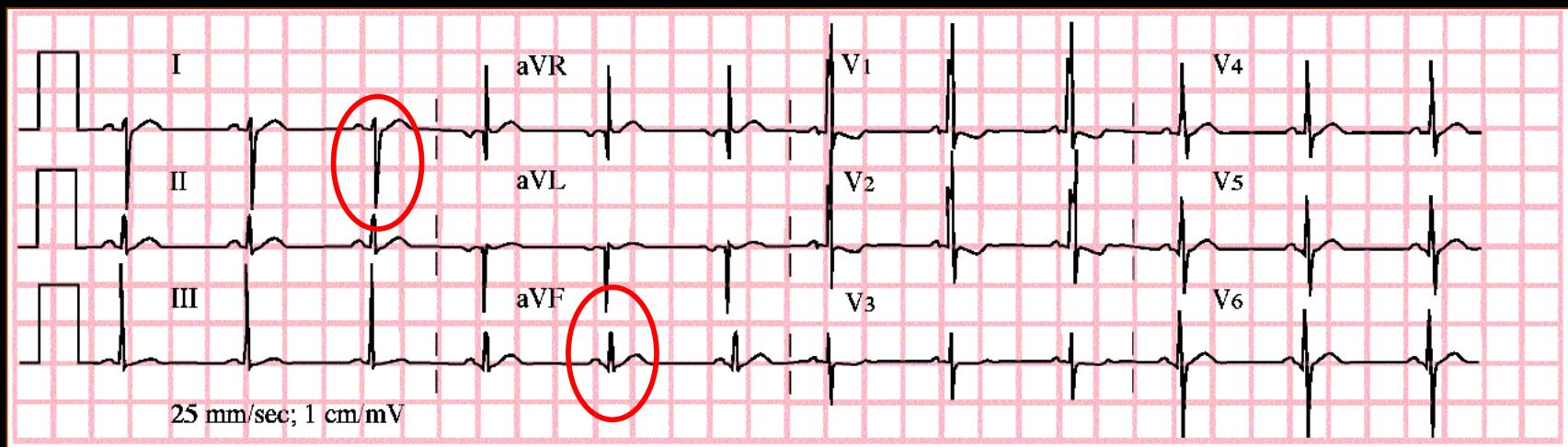
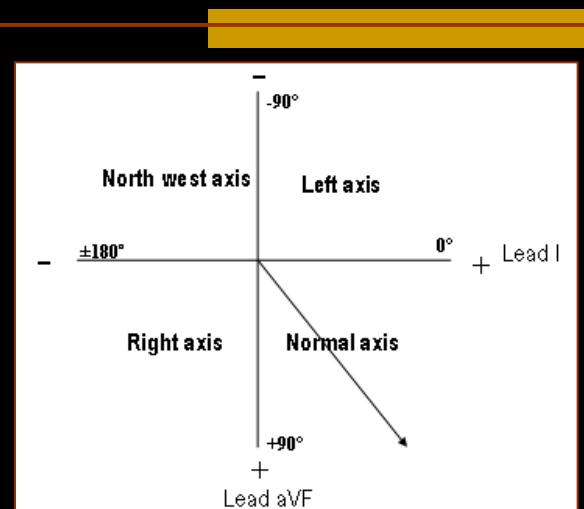
# Left axis deviation

Left axis deviation is evident when the electrical axis is less than (i.e., to the left of) -30 deg.

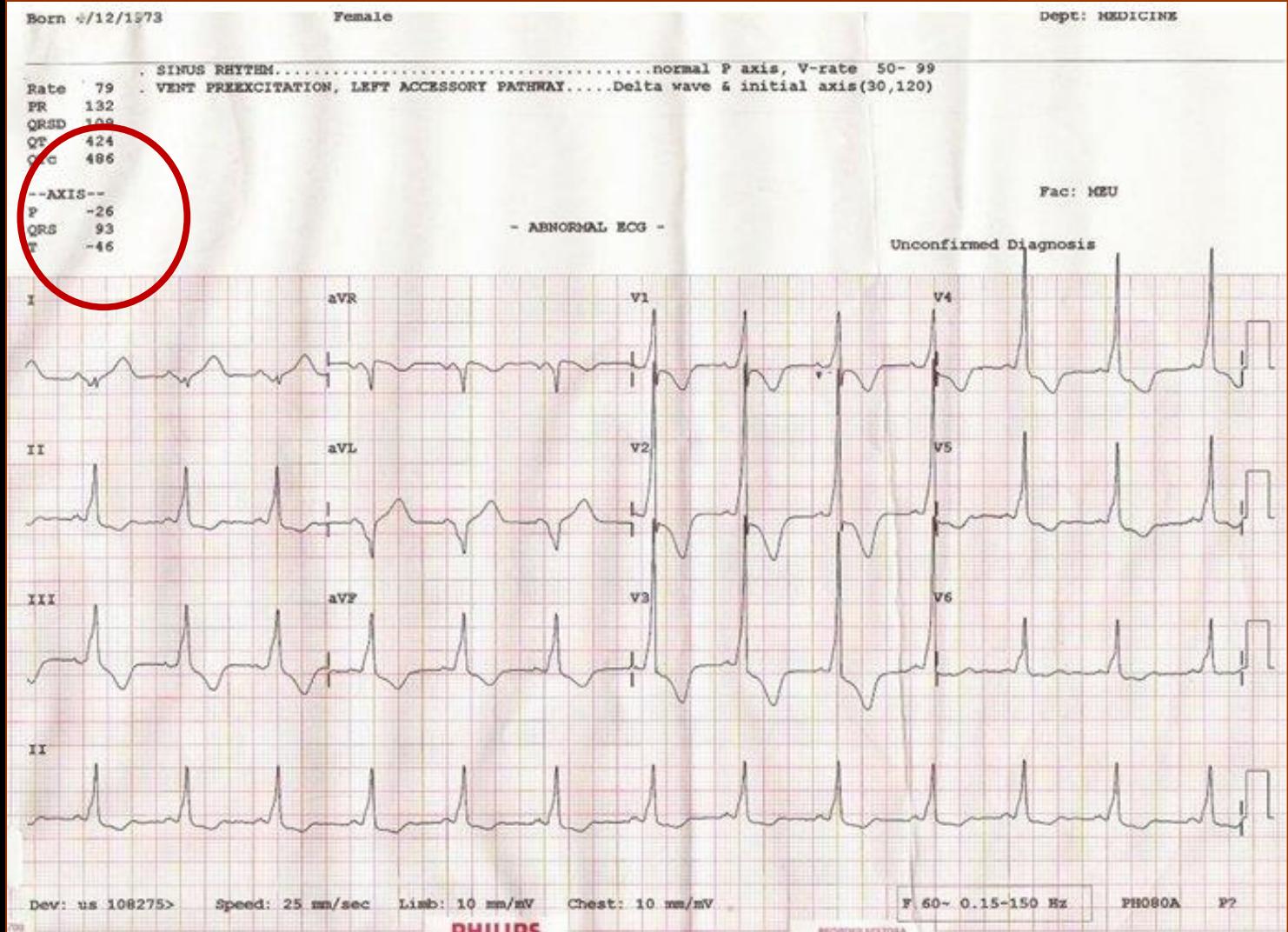


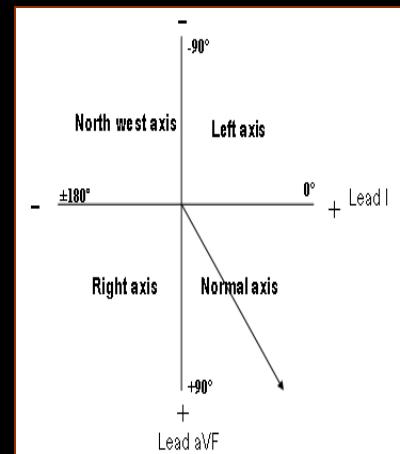
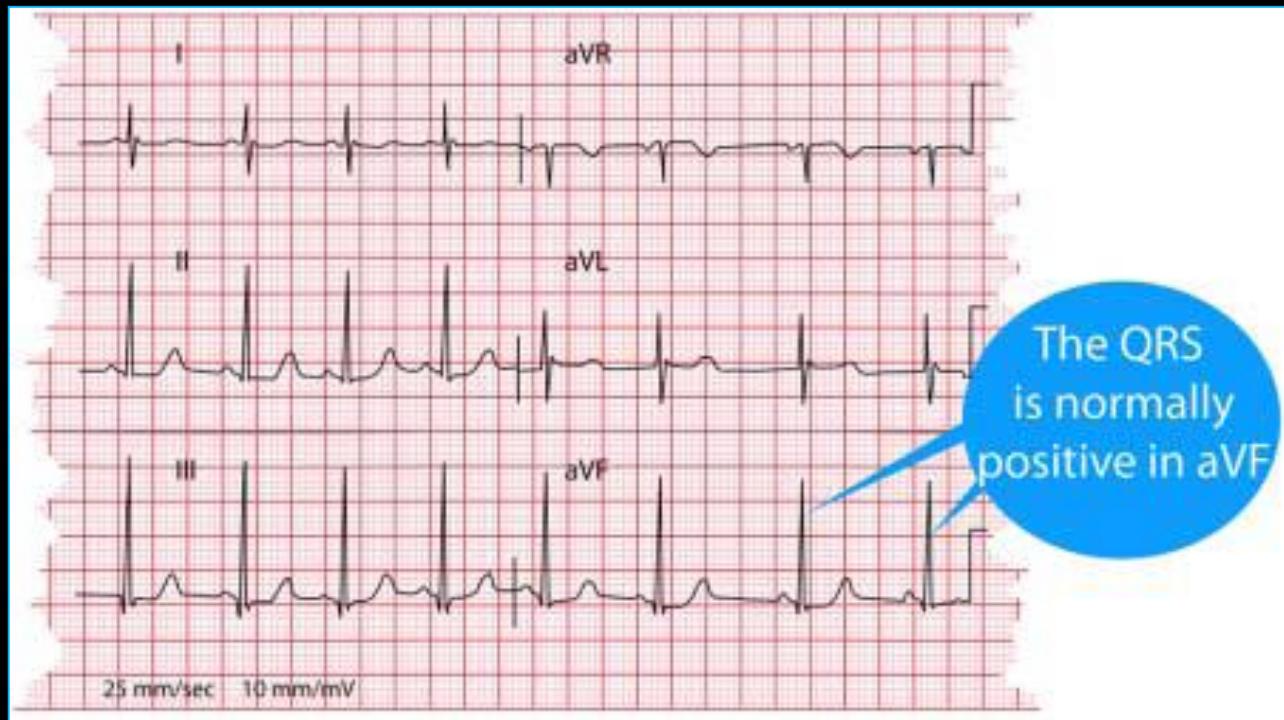
# Electrical Axis

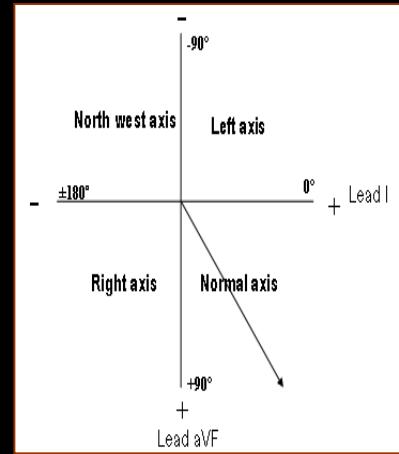
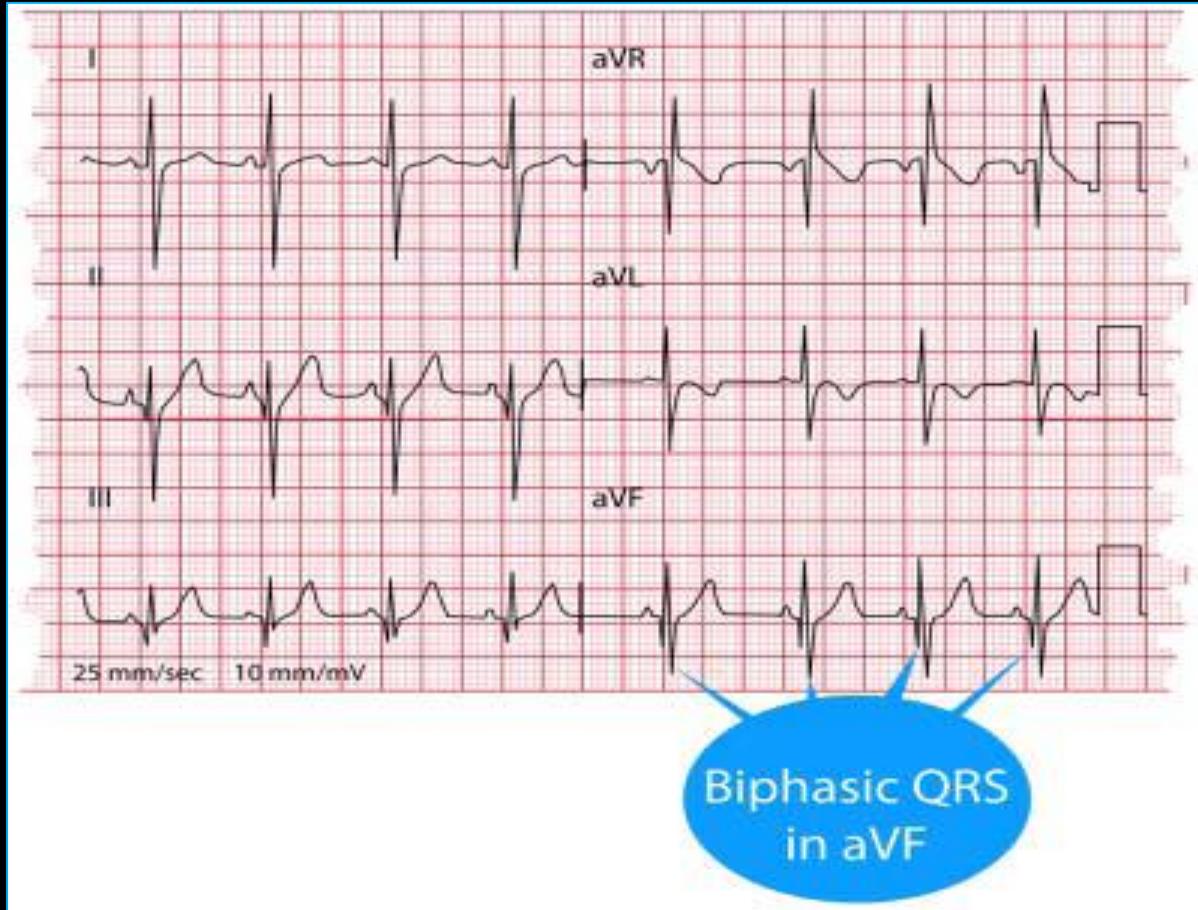
How to calculate?

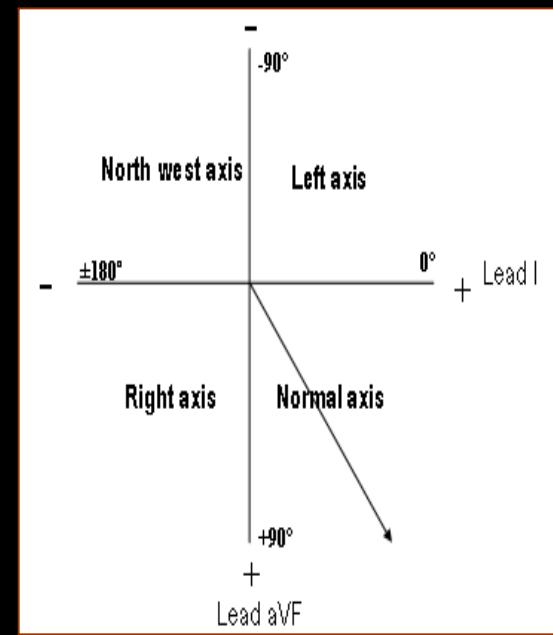
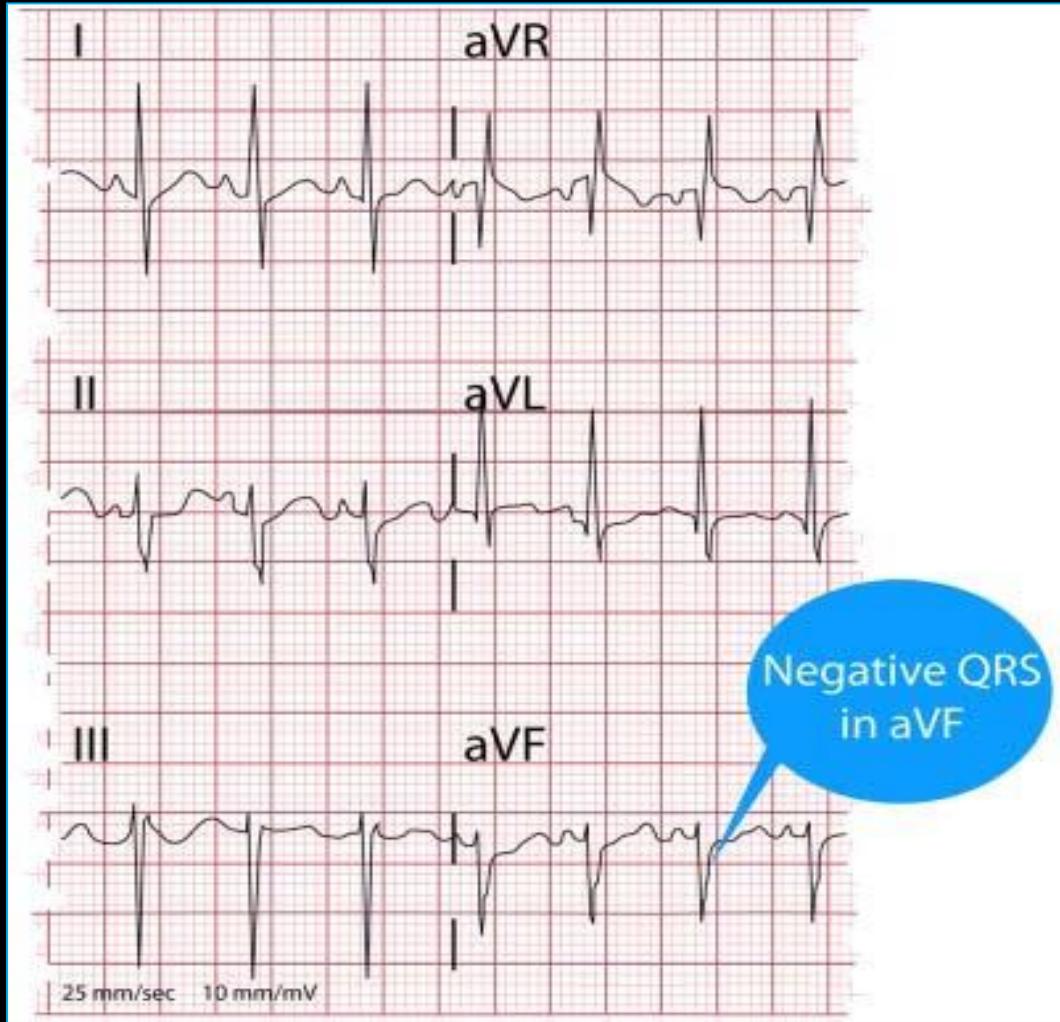


# ...or look at the top of the page



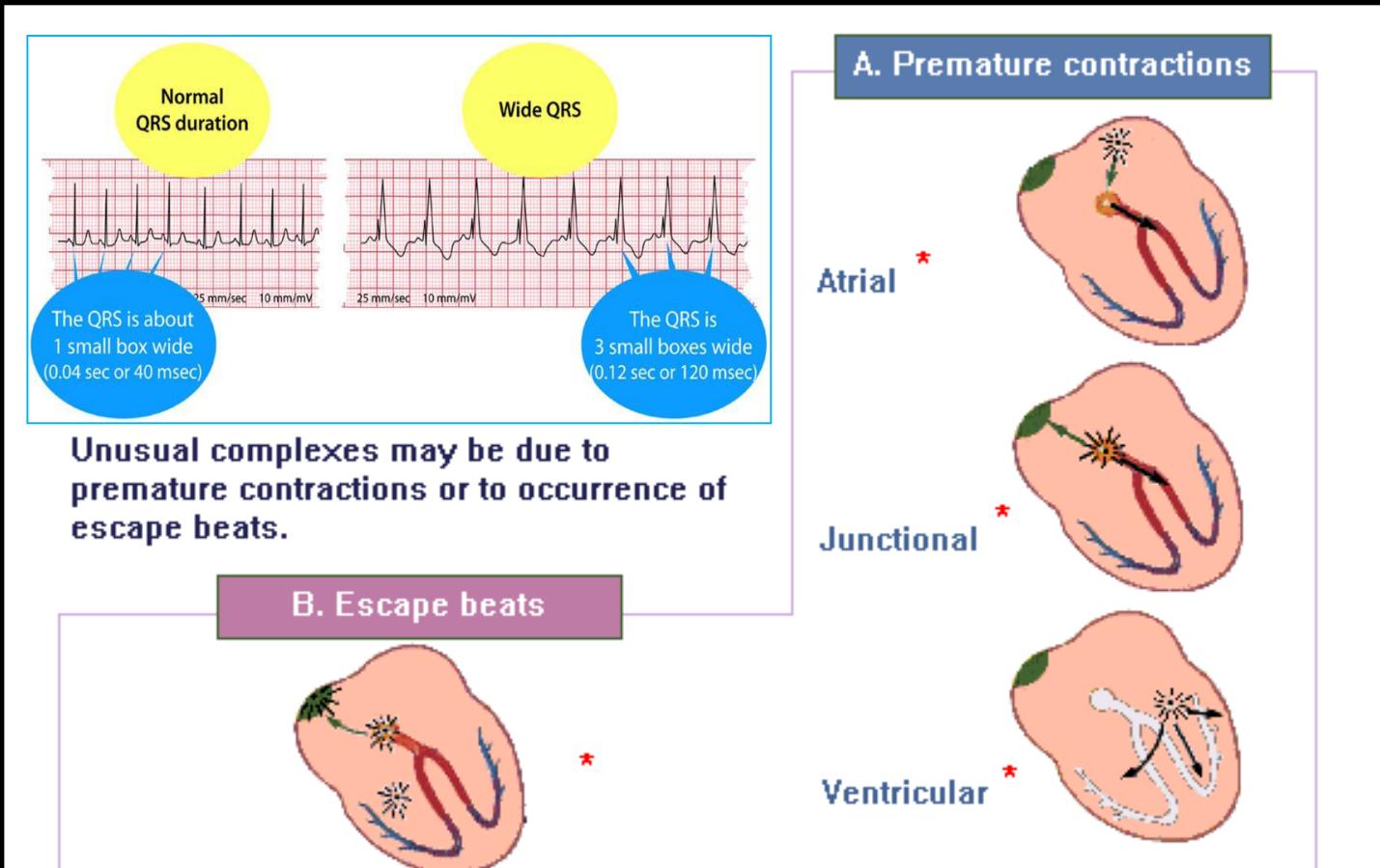




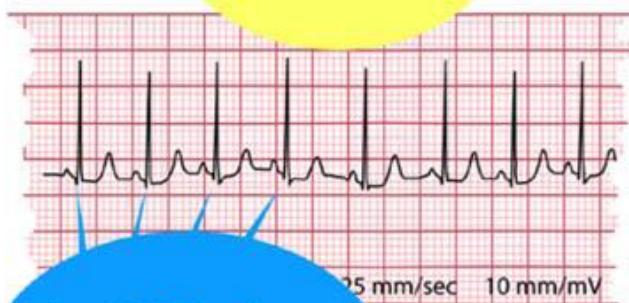


PART : III

# Unusual Complexes :timing or contour



**Normal  
QRS duration**



The QRS is about  
1 small box wide  
(0.04 sec or 40 msec)

**Wide QRS**



The QRS is  
3 small boxes wide  
(0.12 sec or 120 msec)

# Unusual Complex : PAC

Occurs early, before sinus beat is expected \*

P wave often has contour slightly different from sinus beats. \*

PR interval often long. \*

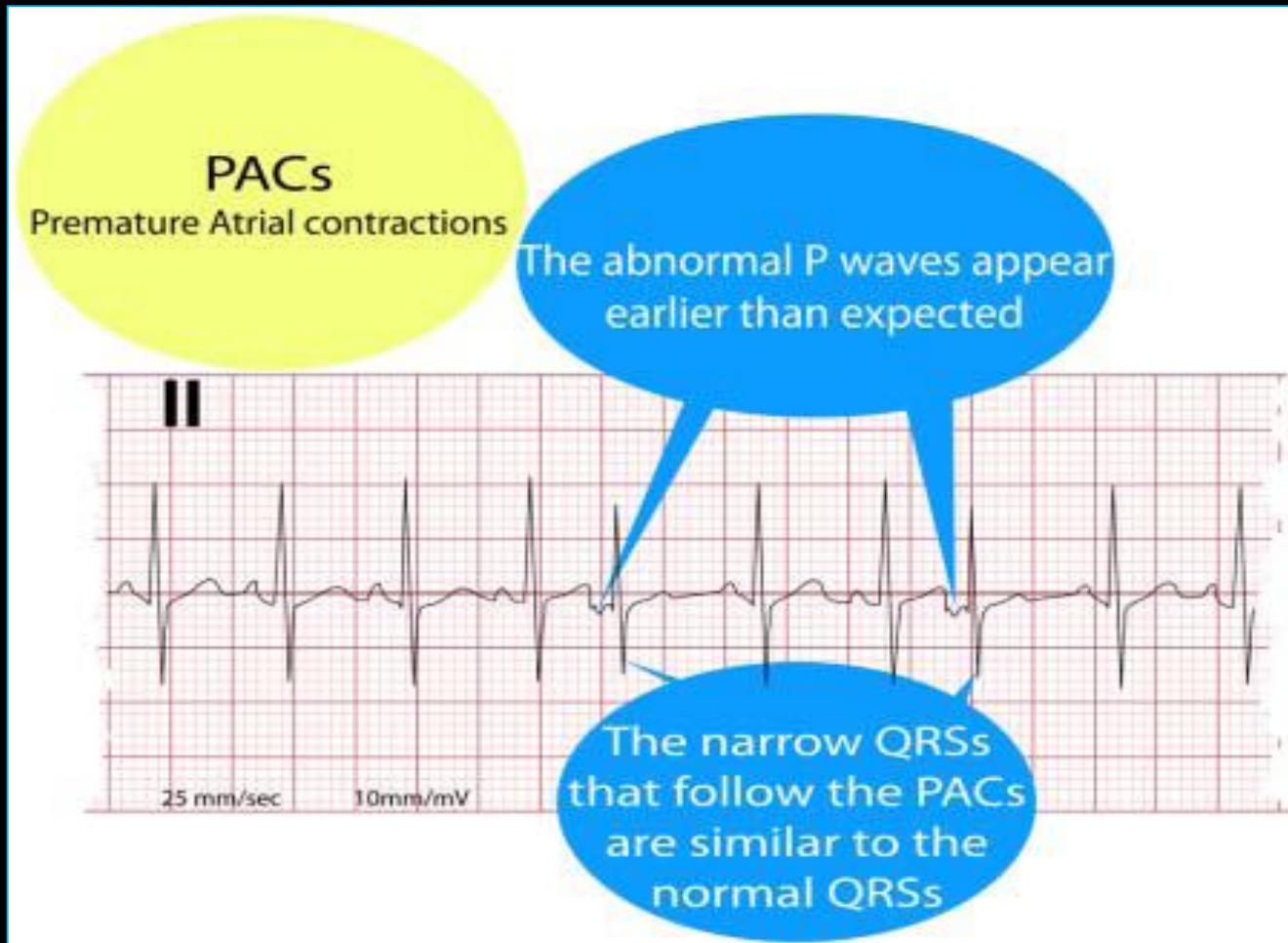
QRS narrow (<0.10 second), similar to normal beats except for timing.

**Premature contraction**

©Ciba

0.20 sec.      >0.20 sec.

# Unusual Complex : PAC

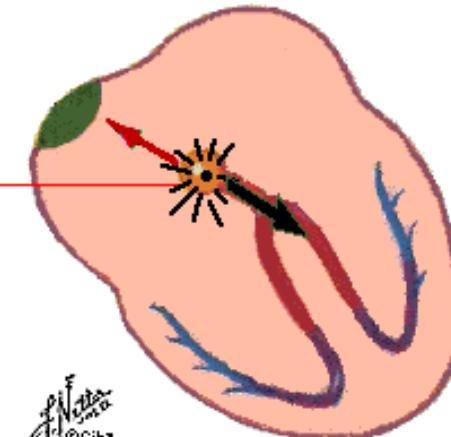


# Unusual Complex : PJC

Occurs early, before sinus beat is expected

\* QRS narrow (<0.10 second)

P wave often inverted. It may precede, be incorporated in, or follow QRS, depending on whether of high, mid, or low nodal origin.



©Ciba

Premature contraction



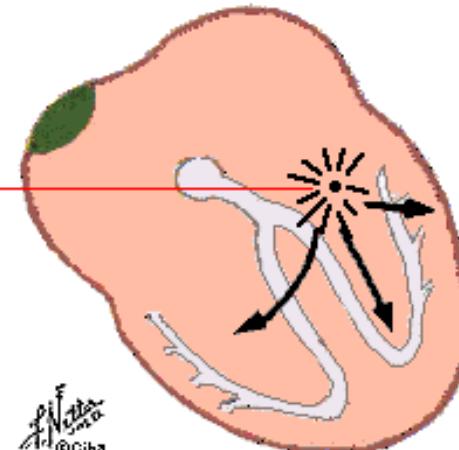
# Unusual Complex : PVC

Occurs early, before sinus beat is expected \*

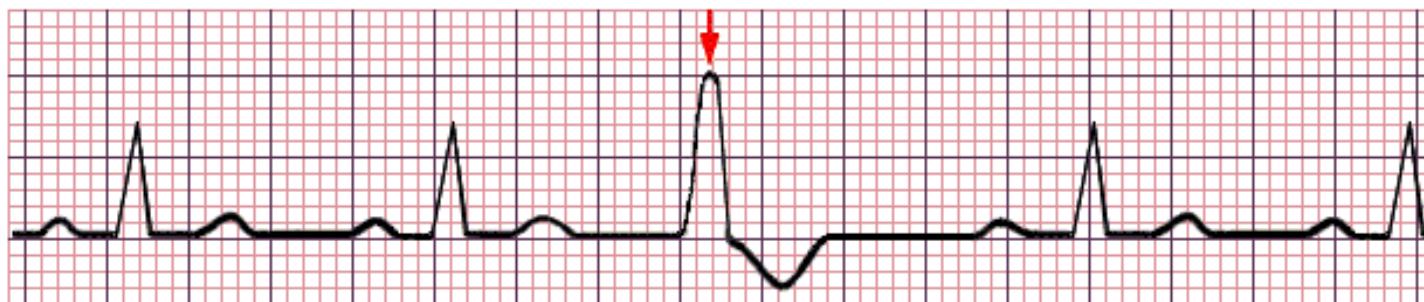
QRS wider than normal and distorted in shape.

Usually no P wave. \*

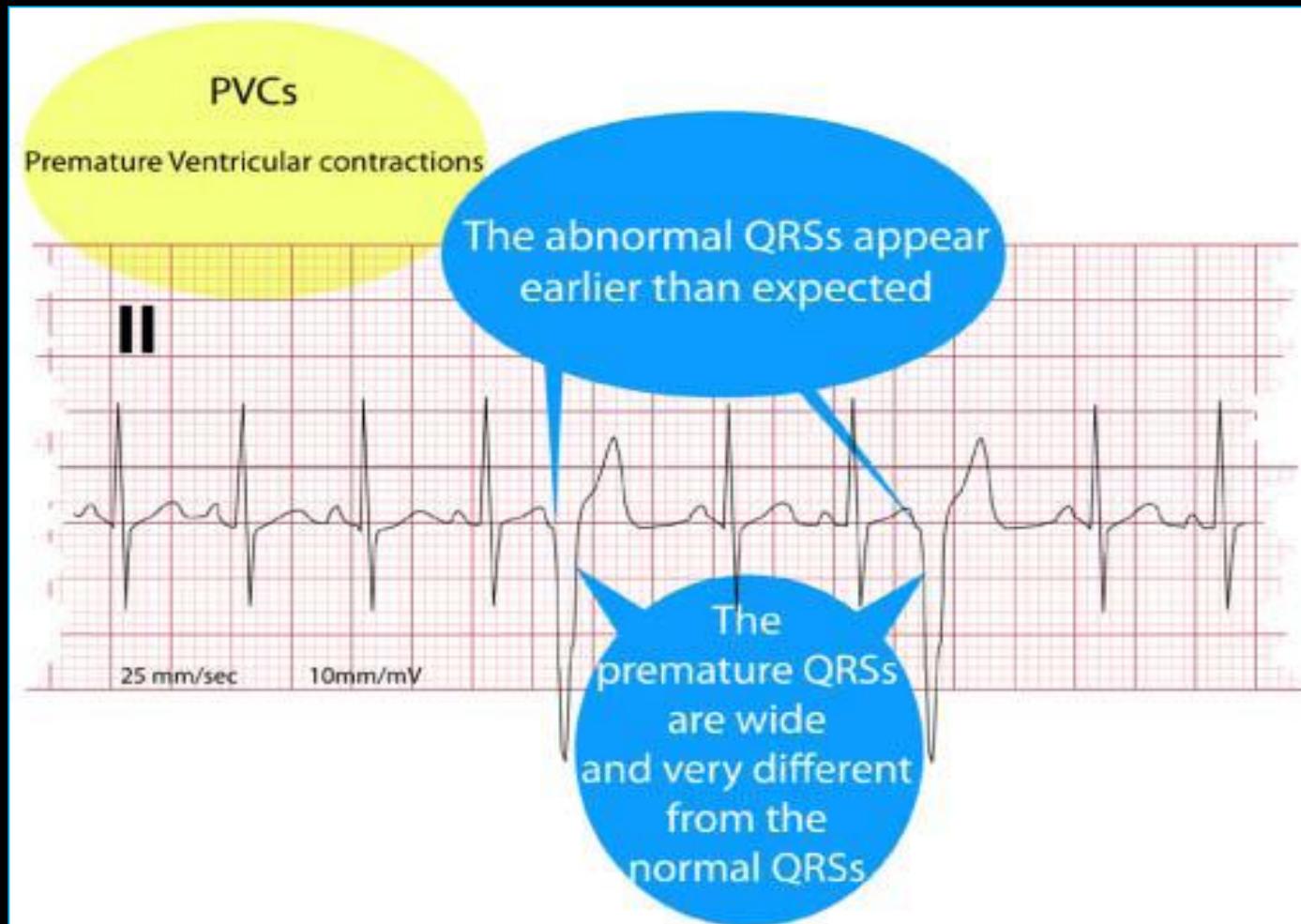
Premature contraction \*



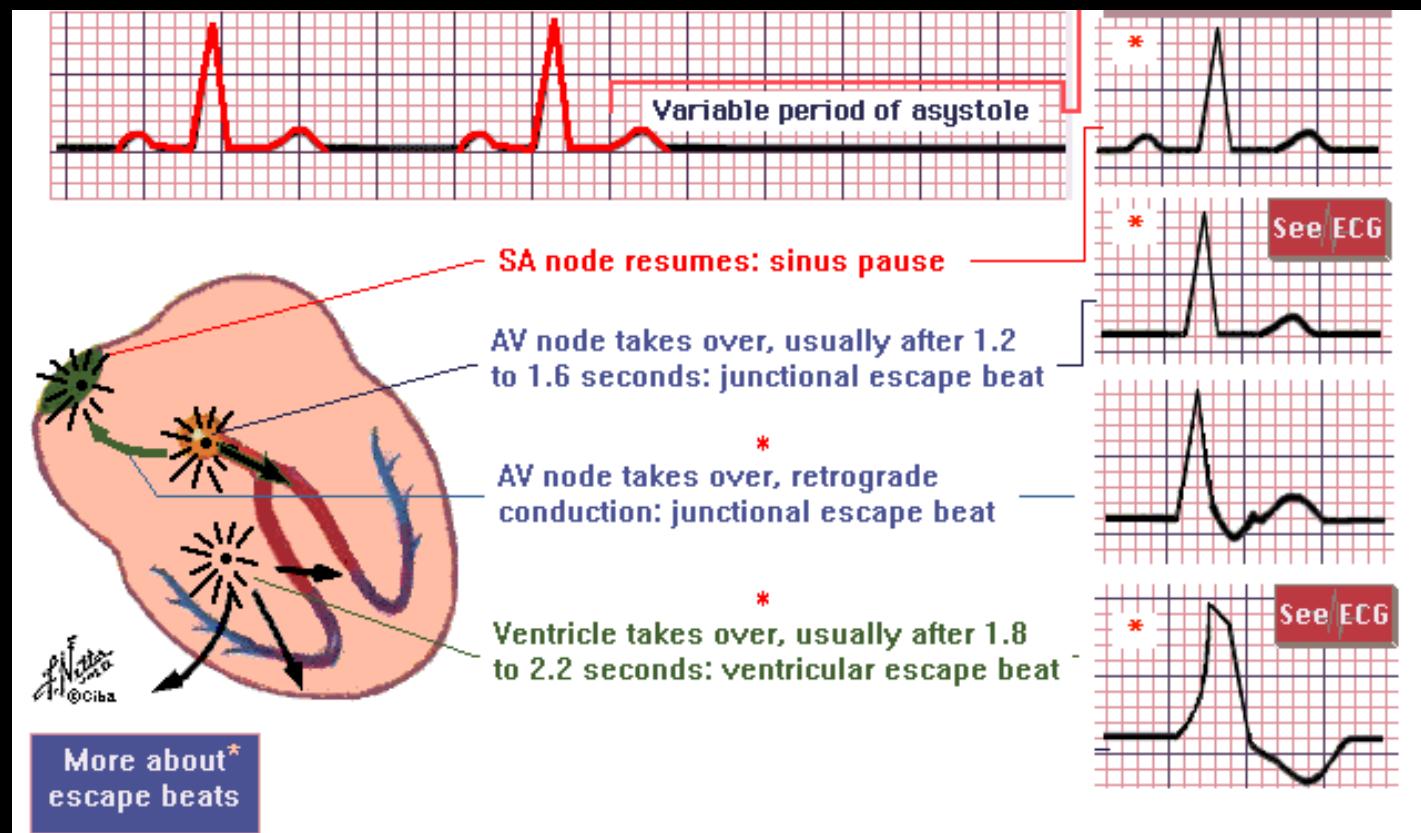
© Ciba  
Netter



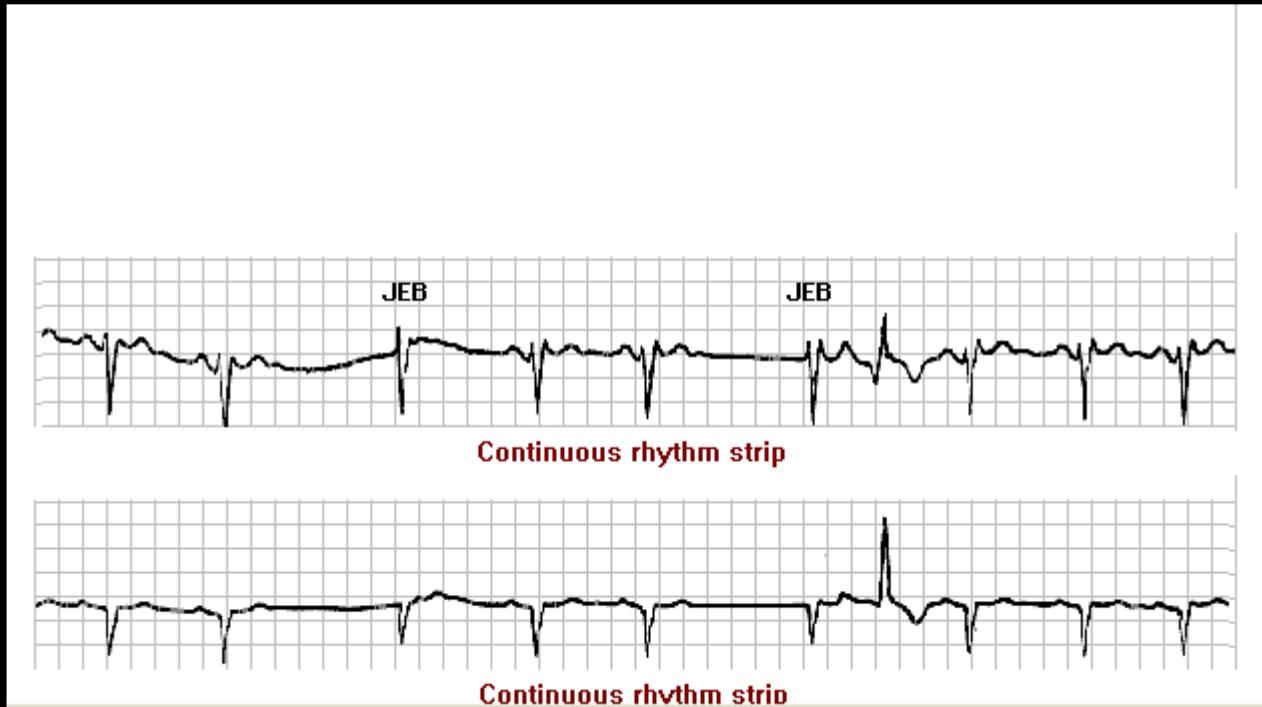
# Unusual Complex : PVC



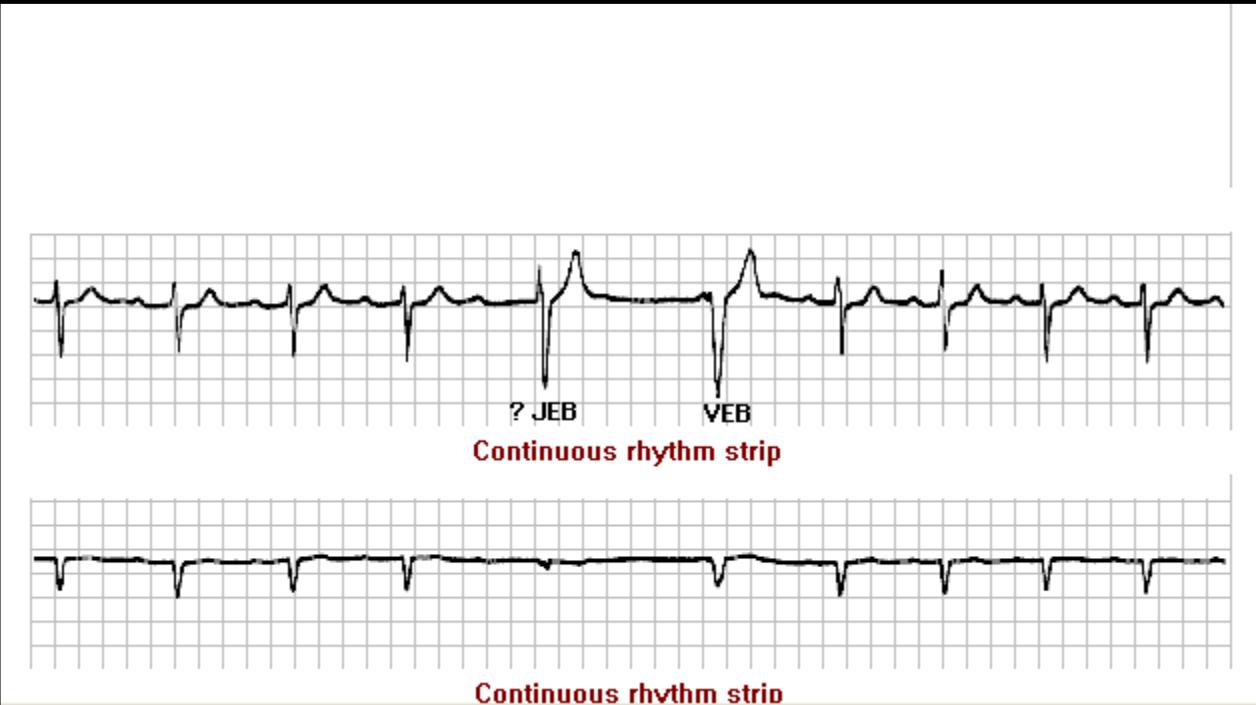
# Unusual Complex : Escape beats



# Self test



# Self test

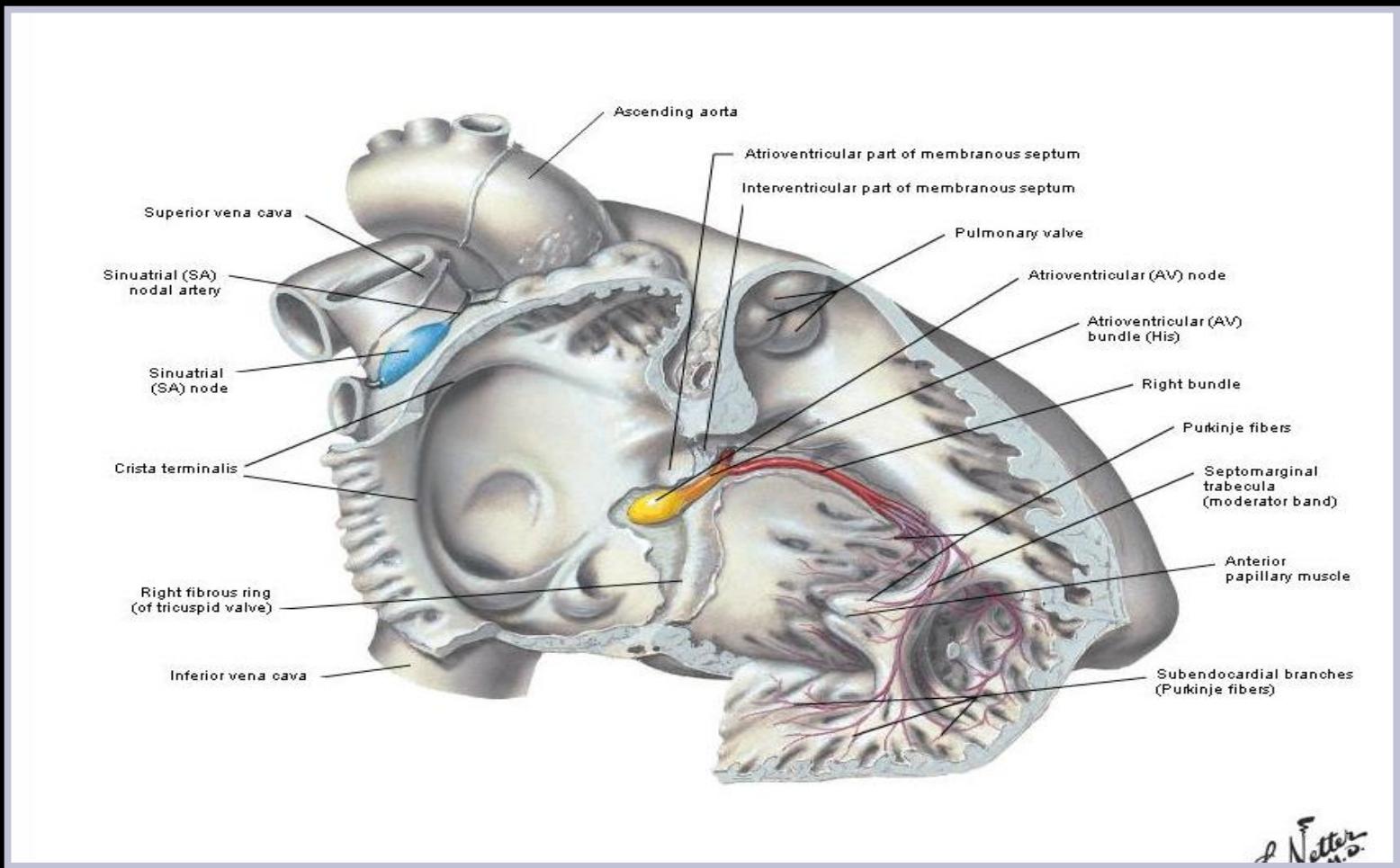


# IV-Conduction & Block

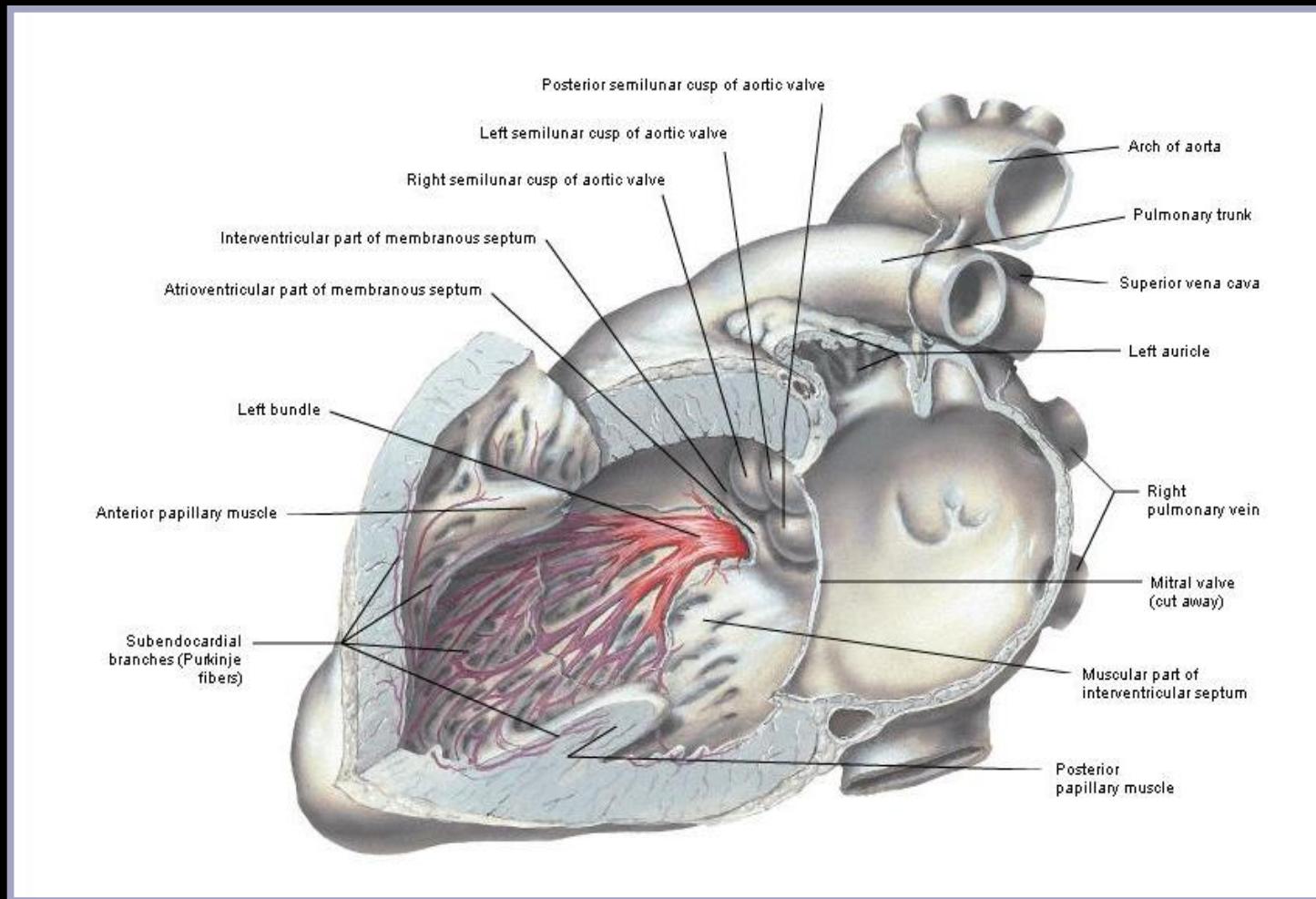
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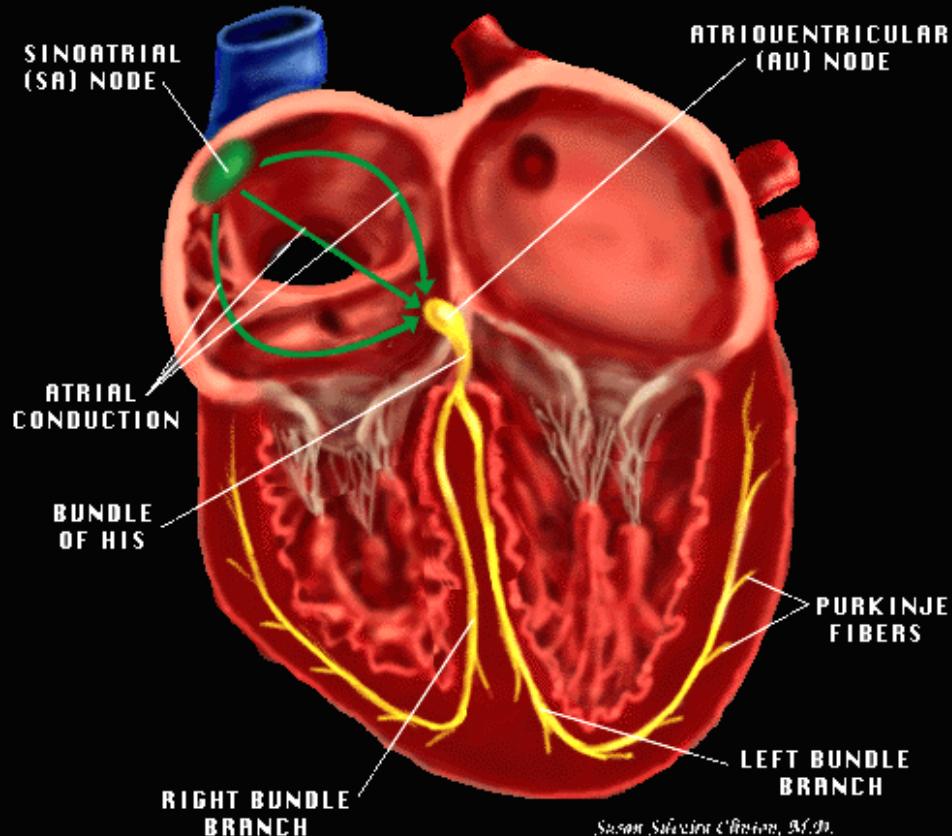
- Atrio-Ventricular Conduction
- Intra-Ventricular Conduction Defects

# Conducting system :Right side



# Conducting System :left side





Susan Silcott Clinton, M.D.

# Assessment of Atrio-ventricular conduction :

---

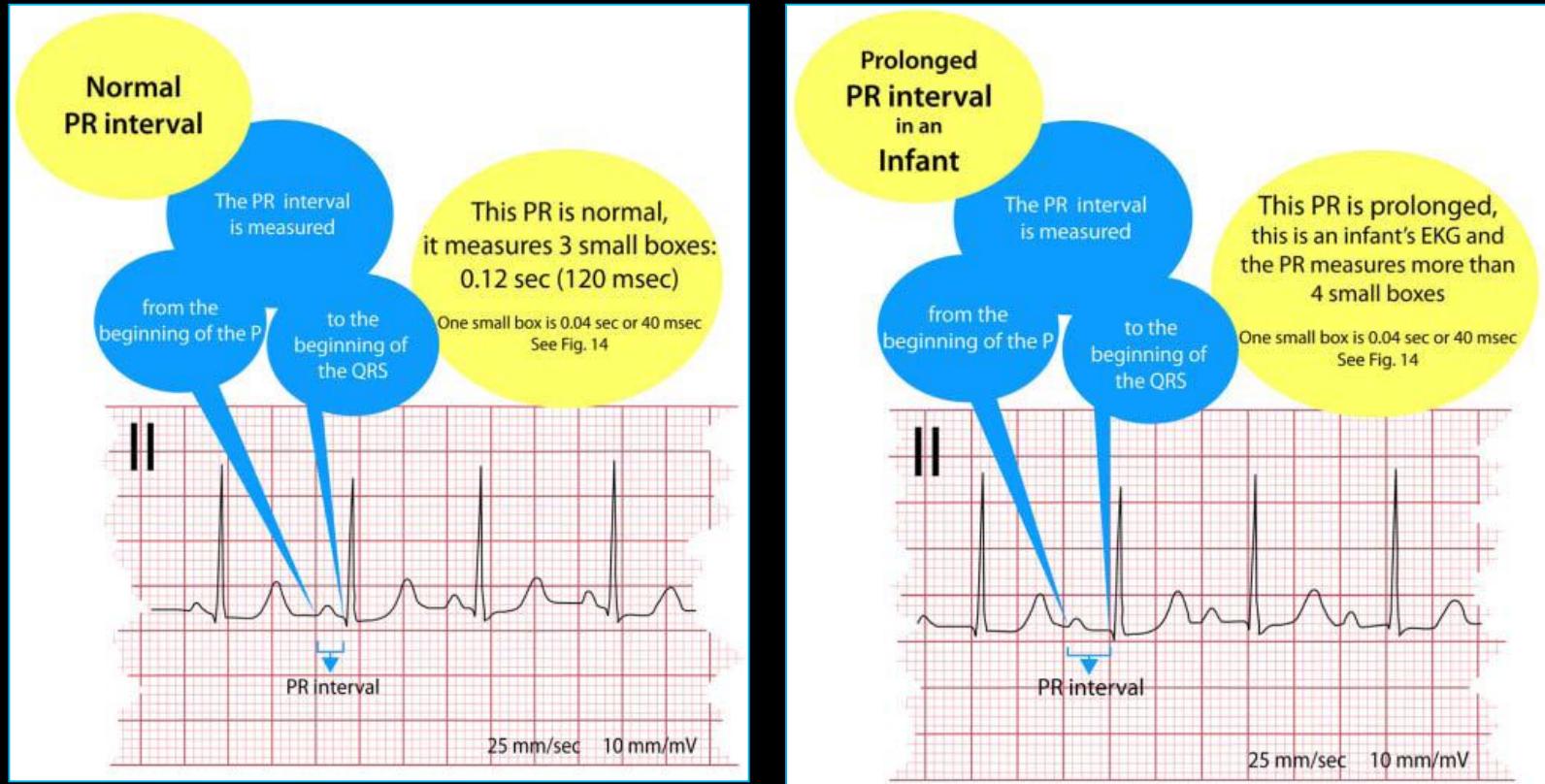
AV conduction is assessed by examining the relationship between P waves and QRS complexes.

The basic question is whether P waves are :

P wave always related to QRS

P wave sometimes related to QRS

P wave never related to QRS



# Atrio-ventricular conduction :

P wave always related to QRS

P waves always precede QRS complexes

by a fixed normal PR interval

P waves precede, follow, or are buried in QRS complexes

but the PR interval is  
short (<0.12 second)

P waves always precede QRS complexes

but PR intervals are variable

P waves always precede QRS complexes

but PR interval is fixed but  
prolonged (>0.20 second)

# P wave always related to QRS

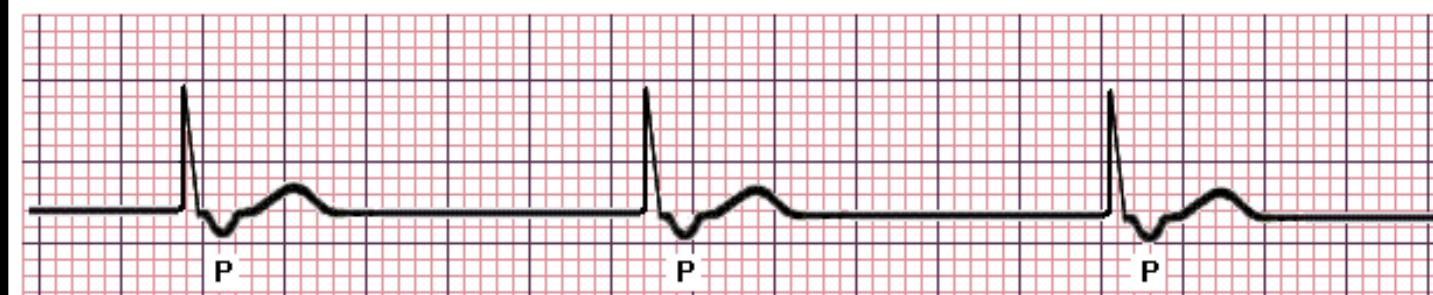
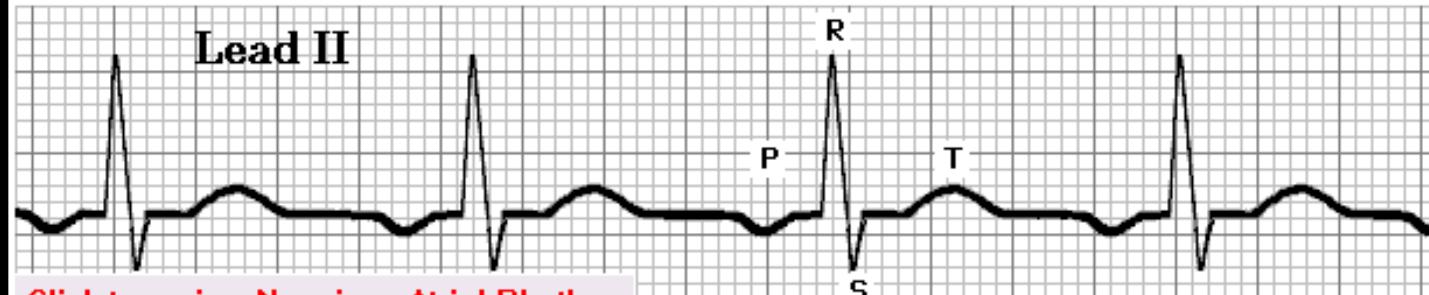
When a P wave is preceded by a  
FIXED NORMAL PR INTERVAL,

then AV conduction is normal, and the  
diagnosis is Normal Sinus Rhythm.



# P wave always related to QRS

This generally means a JUNCTIONAL or NONSINUOUS ATRIAL (Coronary Sinus) RHYTHM.



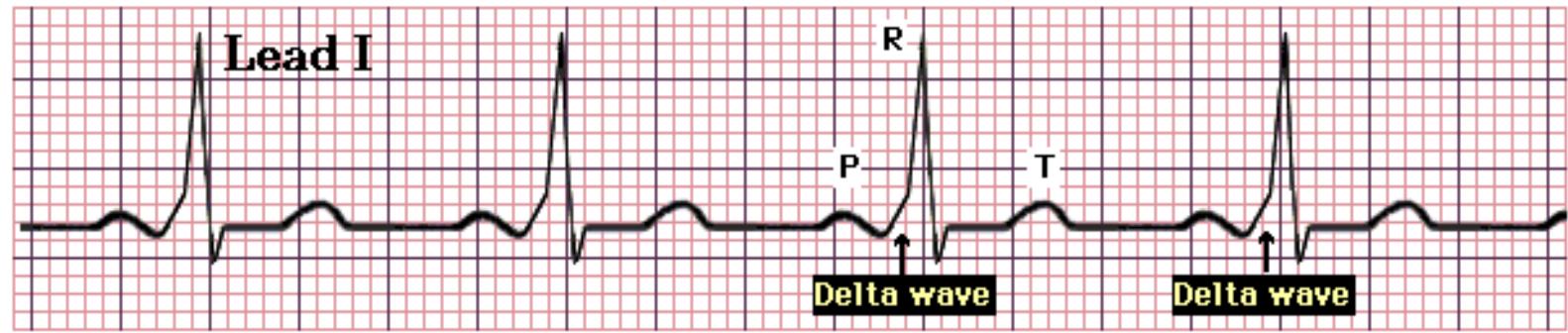
# P wave always related to QRS

**Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome (Preexcitation Syndrome) (click to review)**

Atrial activation is transmitted with unusual rapidity to the ventricle.

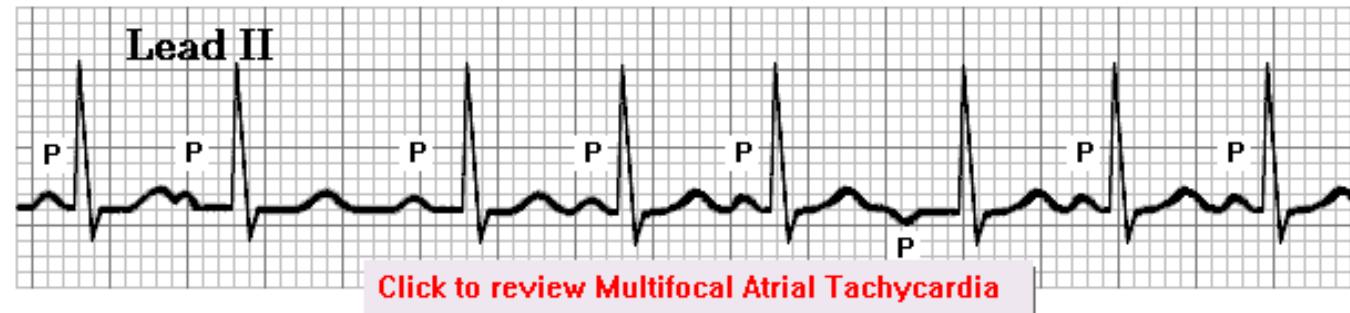
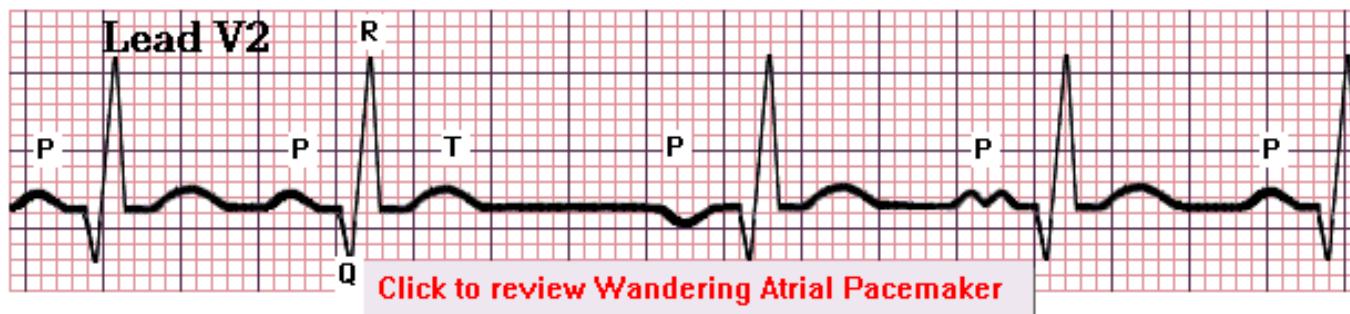
This unusual rapidity is due to the bypass tract in the WPW syndrome. The bypass tract allows the impulse to leak to the ventricular muscle without the delay at the AV node.

After normal delay at AV node, impulses also arrive at ventricles via normal route to continue depolarization.



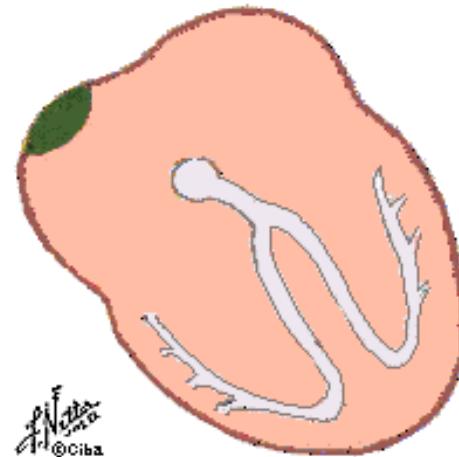
# P wave always related to QRS

**PR Variable:** If P waves always precede QRS complexes but PR intervals are variable, then supraventricular activation is presumed to originate from varying sites, characteristic of wandering atrial pacemaker or multifocal atrial tachycardia.



# P wave always related to QRS

P wave precedes each QRS complex  
but PR interval, although uniform, is  
 $>0.20$  second ( $>5$  small boxes). \*



Fixed but prolonged PR interval; first-degree AV block

# Atrio-ventricular conduction :

P wave sometimes related to QRS

Progressive lengthening of PR interval with intermittent dropped beats

Second-degree AV block: Mobitz I (Wenckebach)

\*

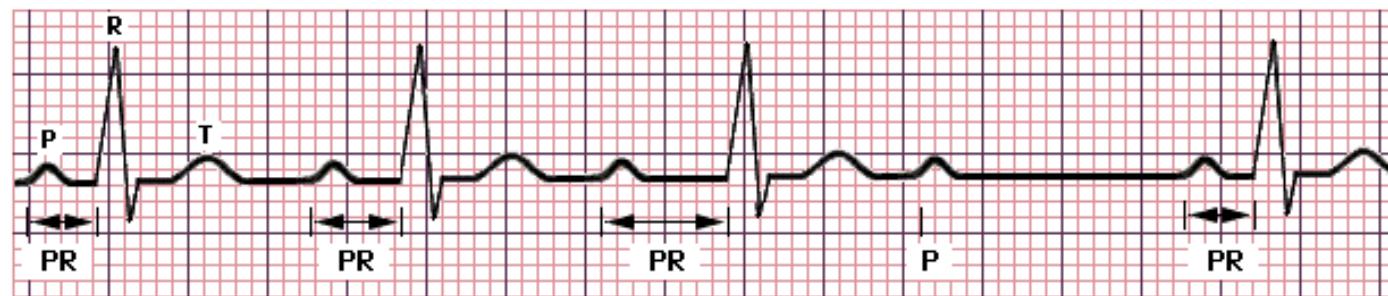
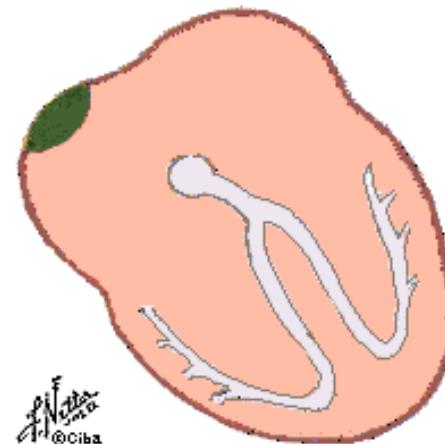
Sudden dropped QRS without prior PR lengthening

Second-degree AV block: Mobitz II (non-Wenckebach)

**P wave sometimes related to QRS**

#### A. Second-Degree AV Block: Mobitz I

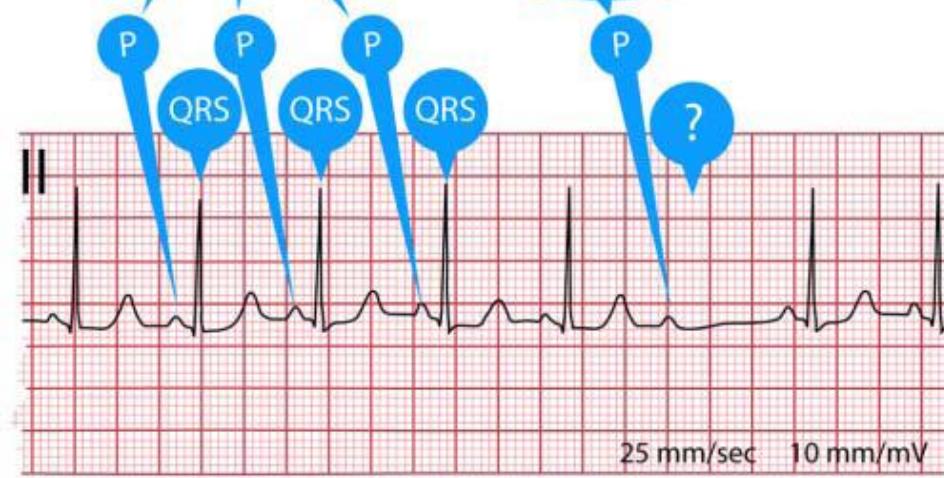
**Progressive lengthening of PR interval with intermittent dropped beats. \***



## 2nd Degree AV block

These P waves  
are followed  
by a QRS

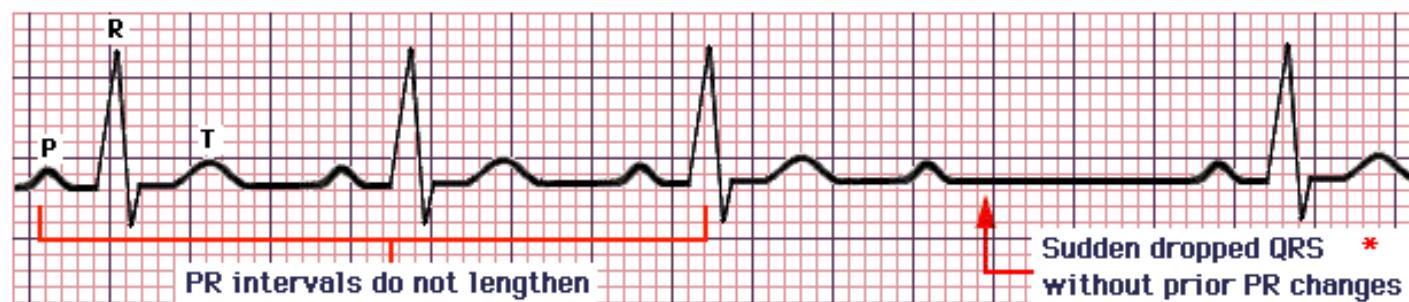
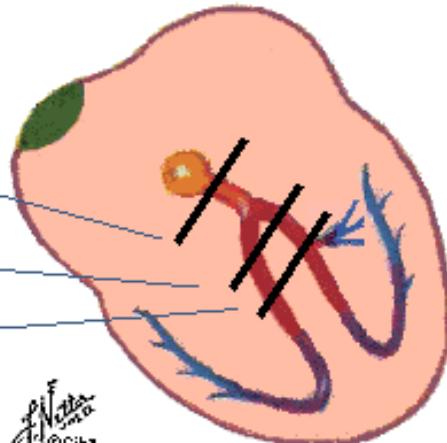
This P wave  
is NOT followed  
by a QRS



# P wave sometimes related to QRS

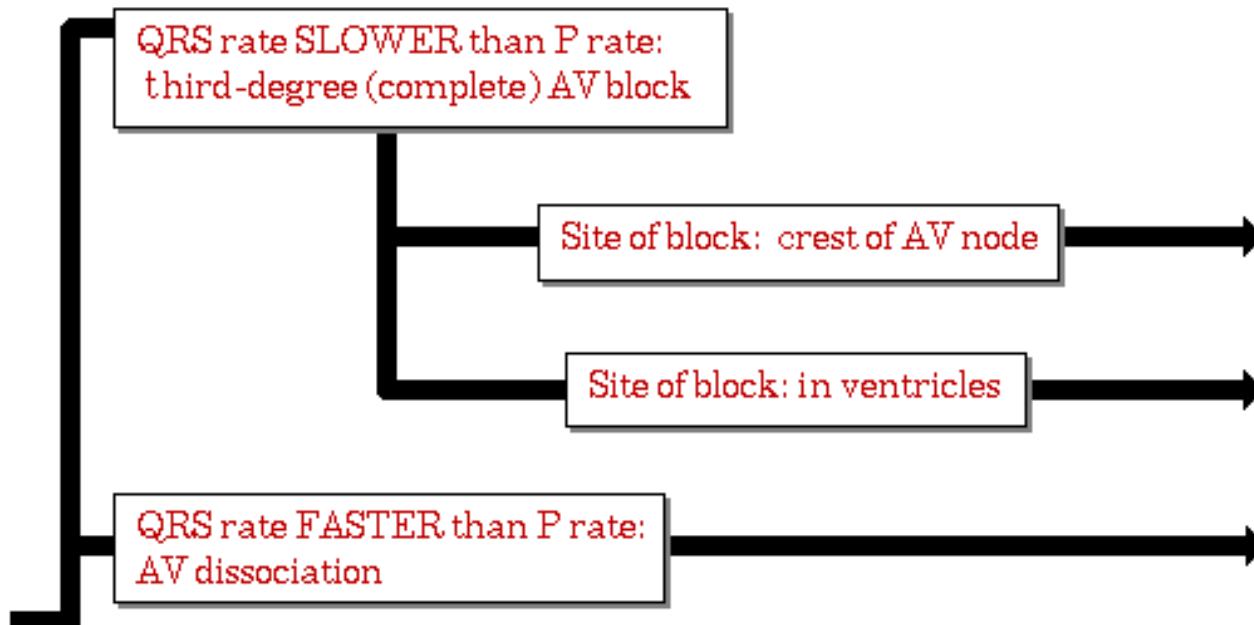
## B. Second-Degree AV Block: Mobitz II (non-Wenckebach) \*

AV block at level of bundle of His \*  
OR  
at bilateral bundle branches  
OR  
trifascicular



# Atrio-ventricular conduction :

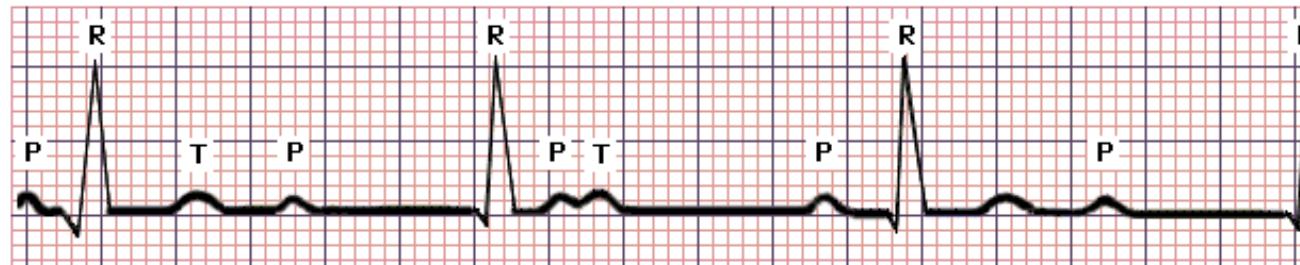
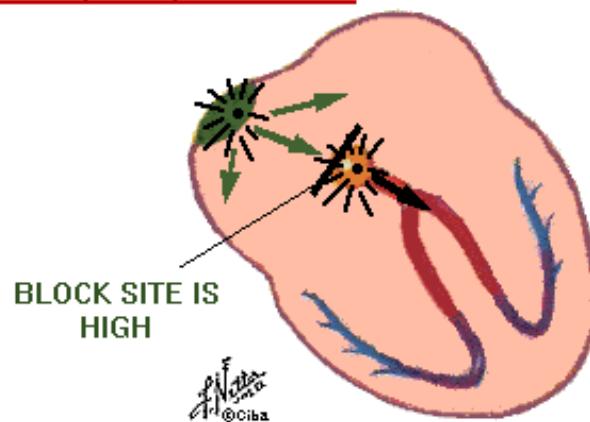
P wave never related to QRS



# P wave never related to QRS

## A. Third-Degree (Complete) AV Block

Impulses originate at both SA node  
(P waves) and below site of block  
in  
AV node conducting  $\leftrightarrow$  ventricles  
\*  
(Junctional Rhythm).



Atria and ventricles depolarize independently.  
QRS complexes less frequent; regular at 40 to 55/minute but normal in shape.

# P wave never related to QRS

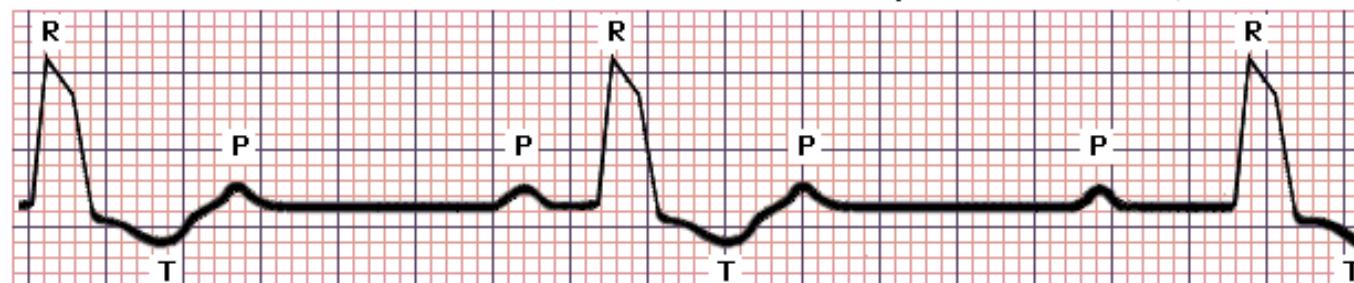
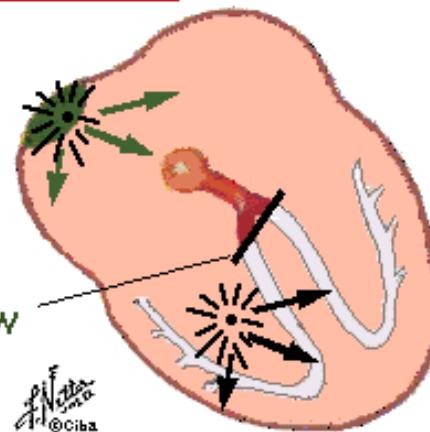
## B. Third-Degree (Complete) AV Block

Impulses originate at both SA node

(P waves) and also below site of block

\*

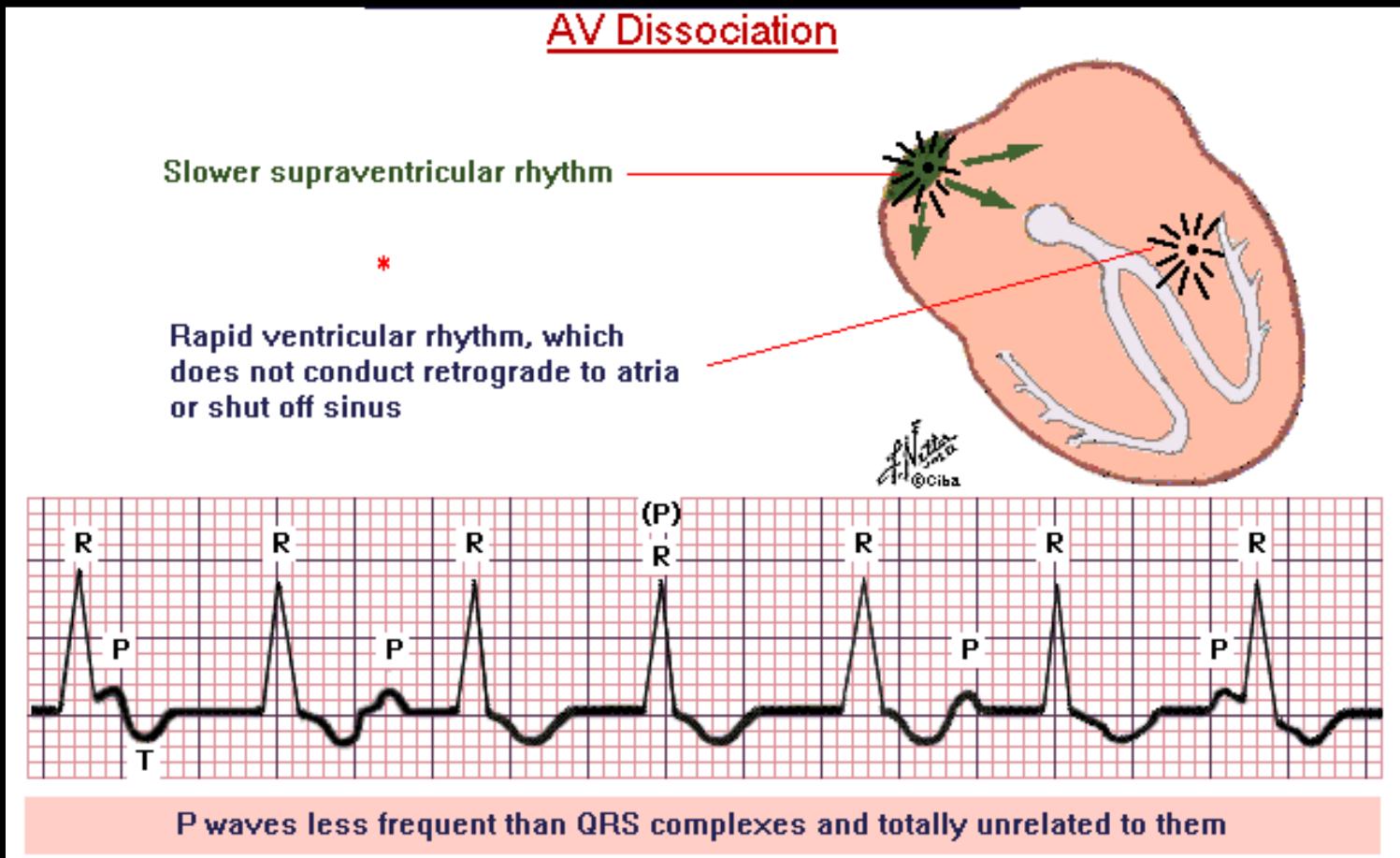
BLOCK SITE IS LOW



Atria and ventricles depolarize independently.

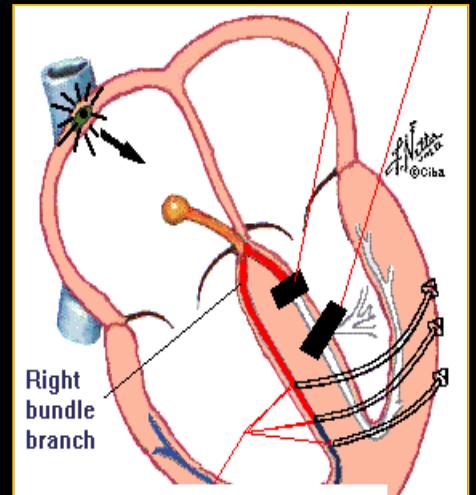
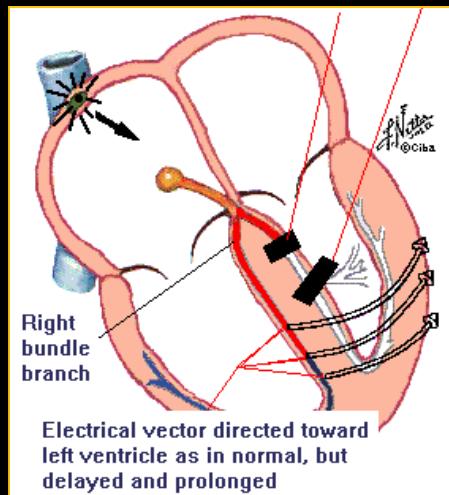
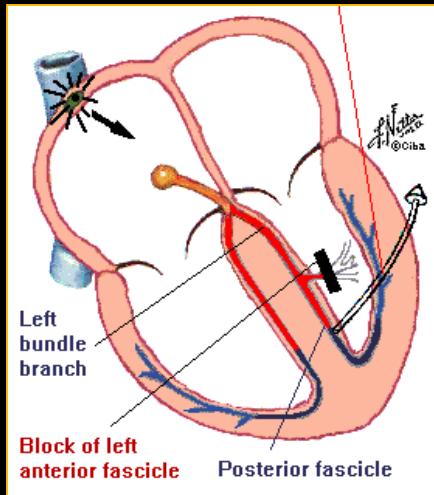
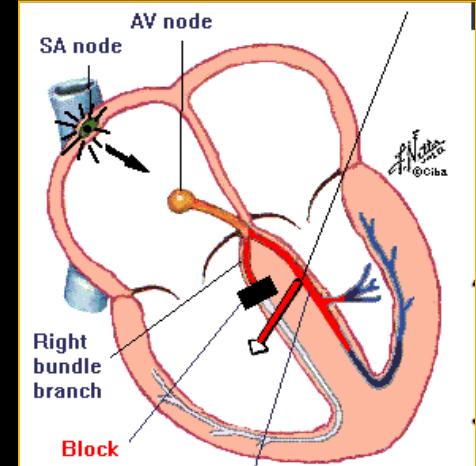
QRS complexes less frequent; regular at 20 to 40/minute but wide and abnormal in shape.

# P wave never related to QRS

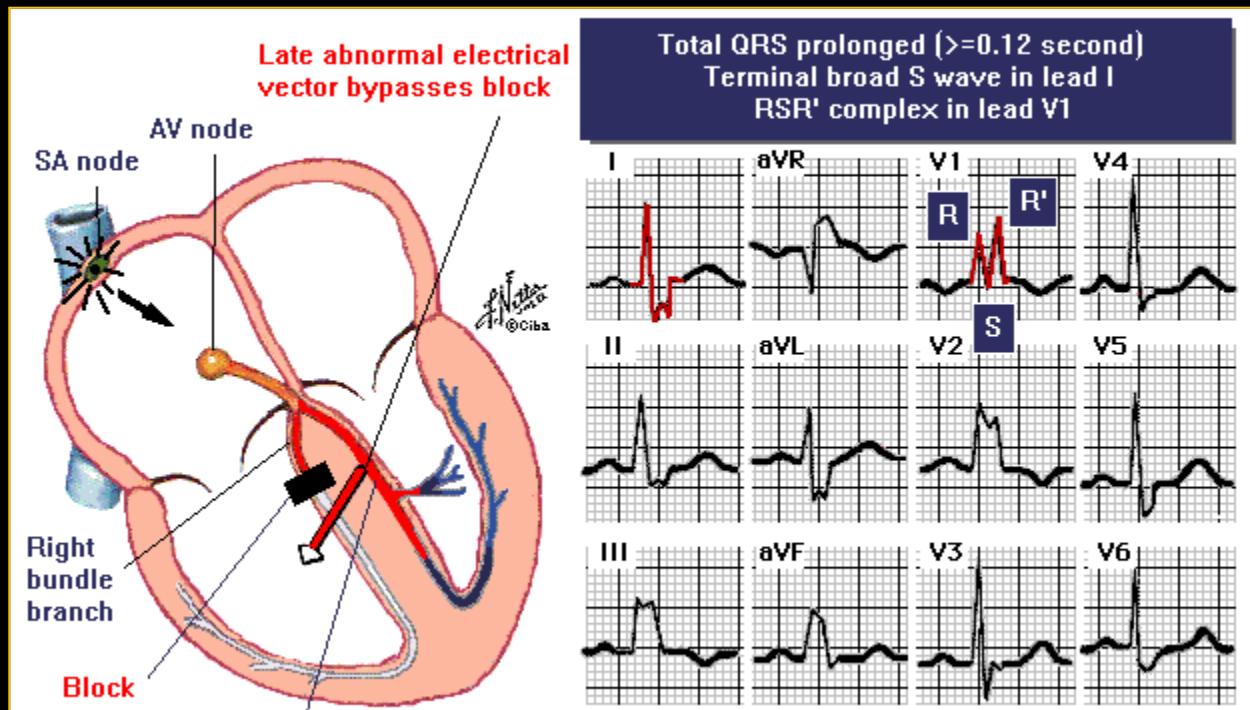


# Intra-ventricular Conduction Defects

Right bundle branch block  
Left bundle branch block  
Left anterior hemiblock  
Left posterior hemiblock

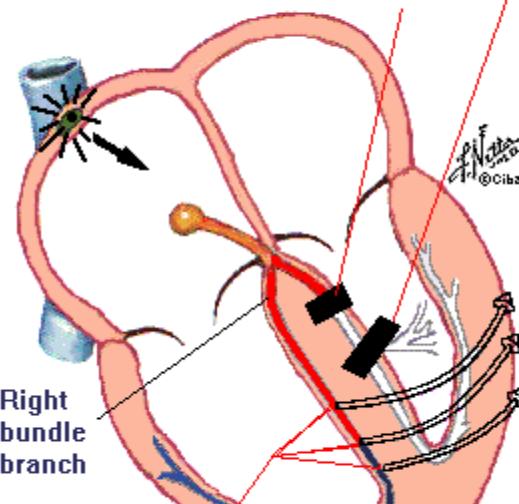


# Right bundle branch block



# Left bundle branch block

**Block of left anterior or posterior fascicles  
OR  
Block of left main bundle branch**



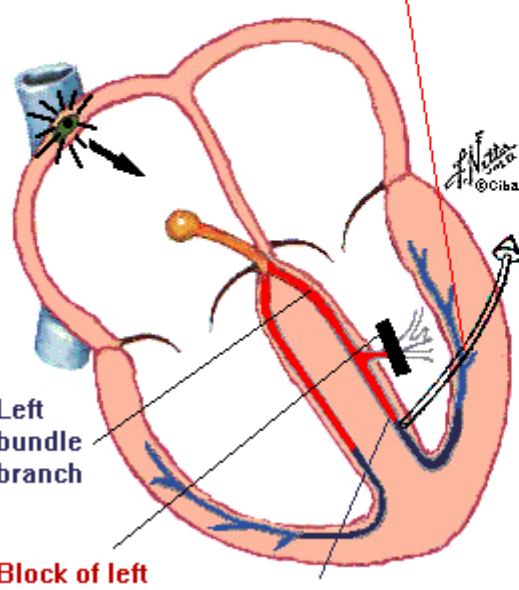
**Wide QRS complex ( $\geq 0.12$  second), with ST depression in leads I, aVL, V<sub>5</sub>, and V<sub>6</sub>**

Lead	Lead	Lead	Lead
I	aVR	V <sub>1</sub>	V <sub>4</sub>
II	aVL	V <sub>2</sub>	V <sub>5</sub>
III	aVF	V <sub>3</sub>	V <sub>6</sub>

**Click here to go to Right Bundle Branch Block**

# Left anterior hemiblock

Electrical vector directed far left (marked left axis deviation in frontal plane)



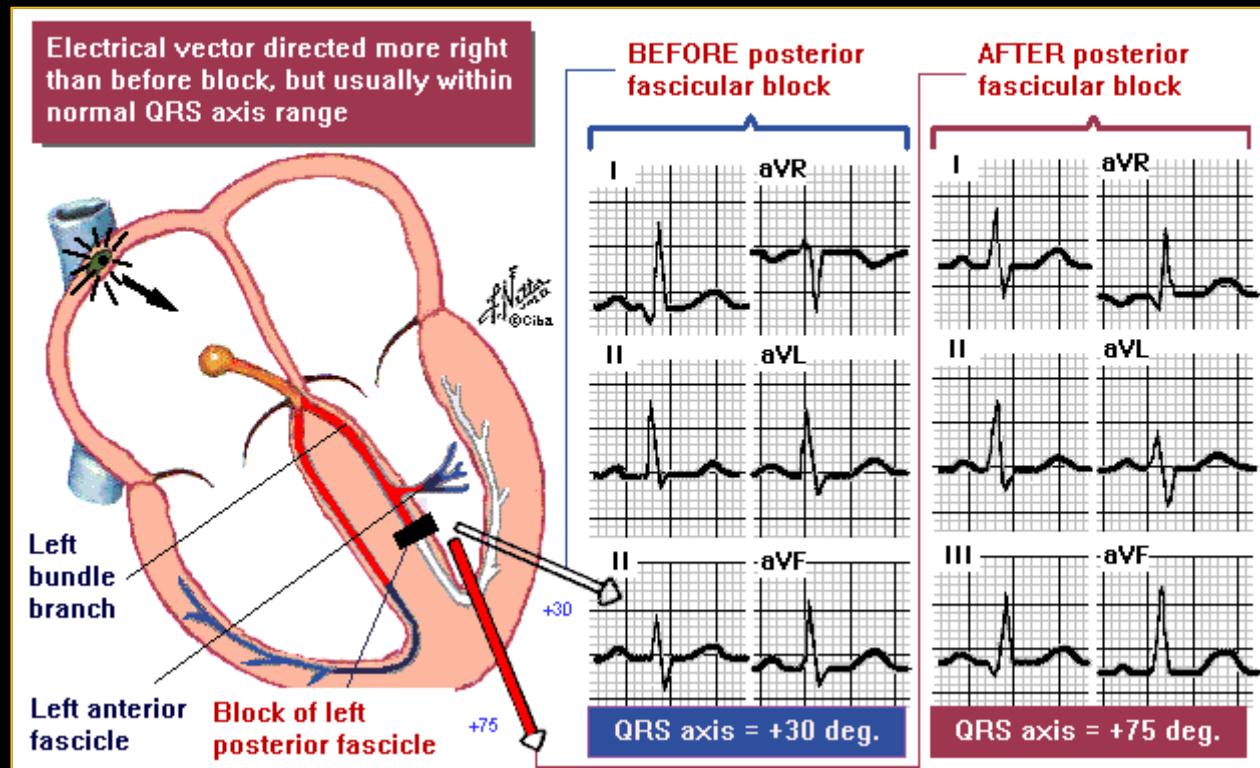
Left bundle branch  
Block of left anterior fascicle Posterior fascicle

QRS complex of normal duration (<0.11 second in all leads)  
S wave >R wave in leads II, III, and aVF (marked left axis deviation)

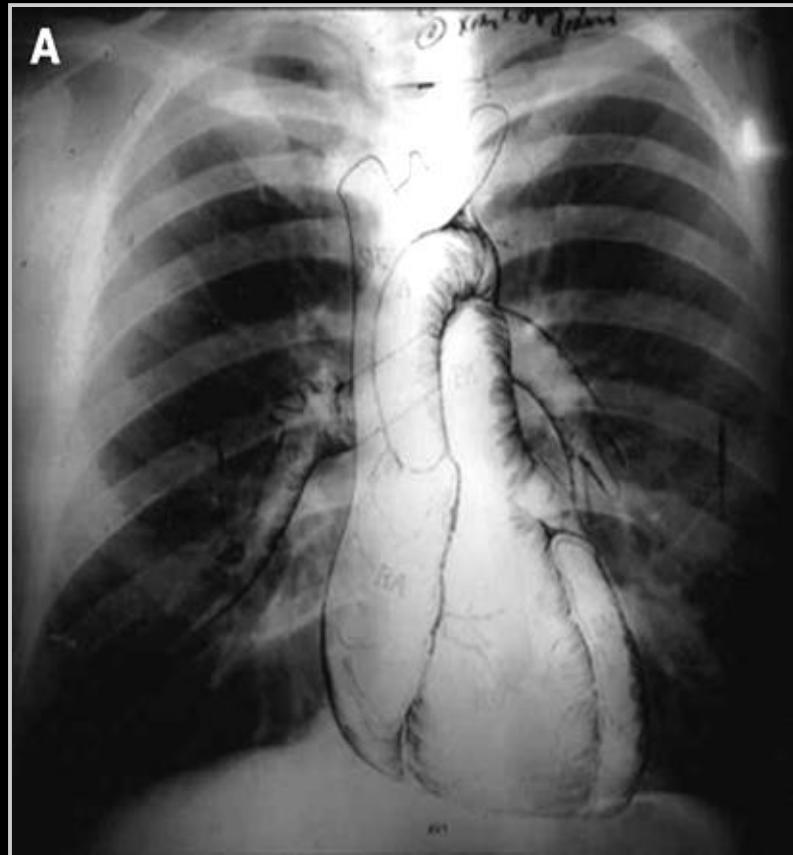
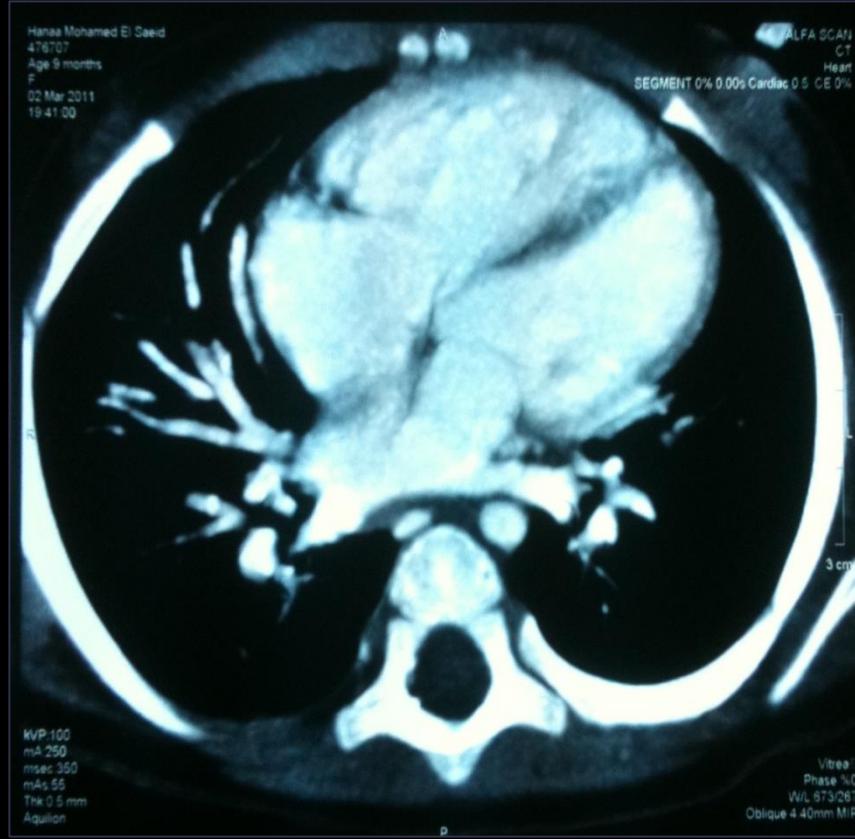
Lead	II	aVL	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6
aVR								
III								
aVF								
IV								
V1								
V2								
V3								
V4								
V5								
V6								

Click here to go to Left Posterior Fascicular Block

# Left posterior hemiblock

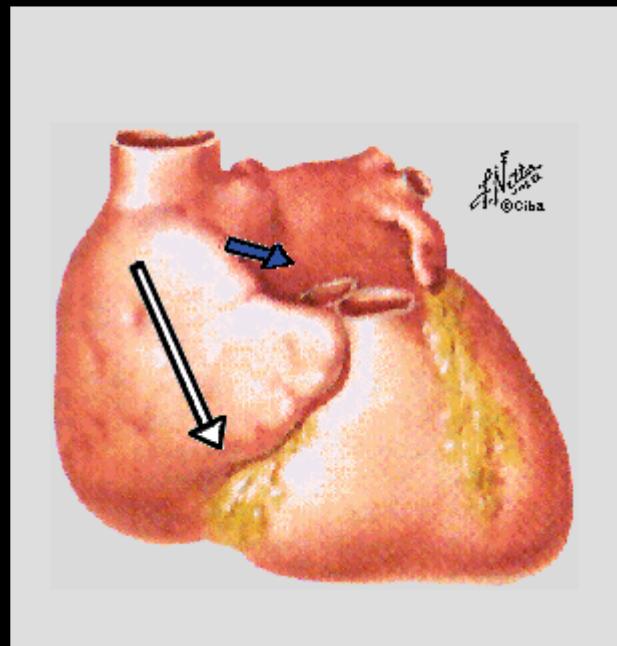


# V- Chamber Enlargement

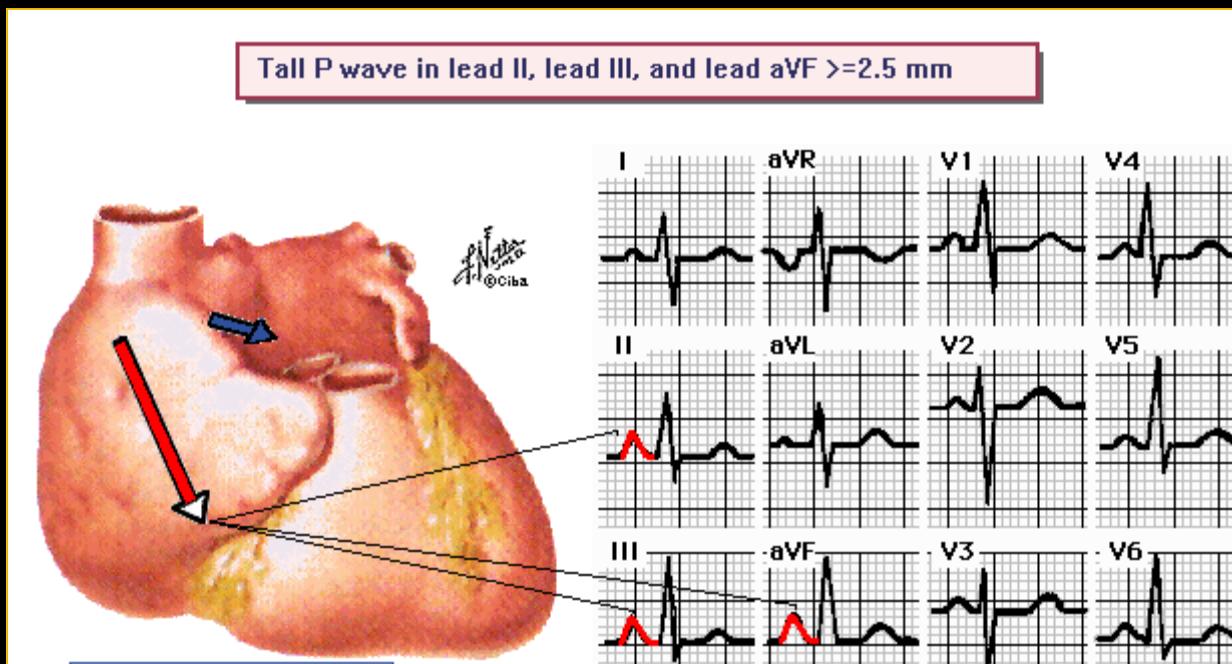


# Chamber Enlargement

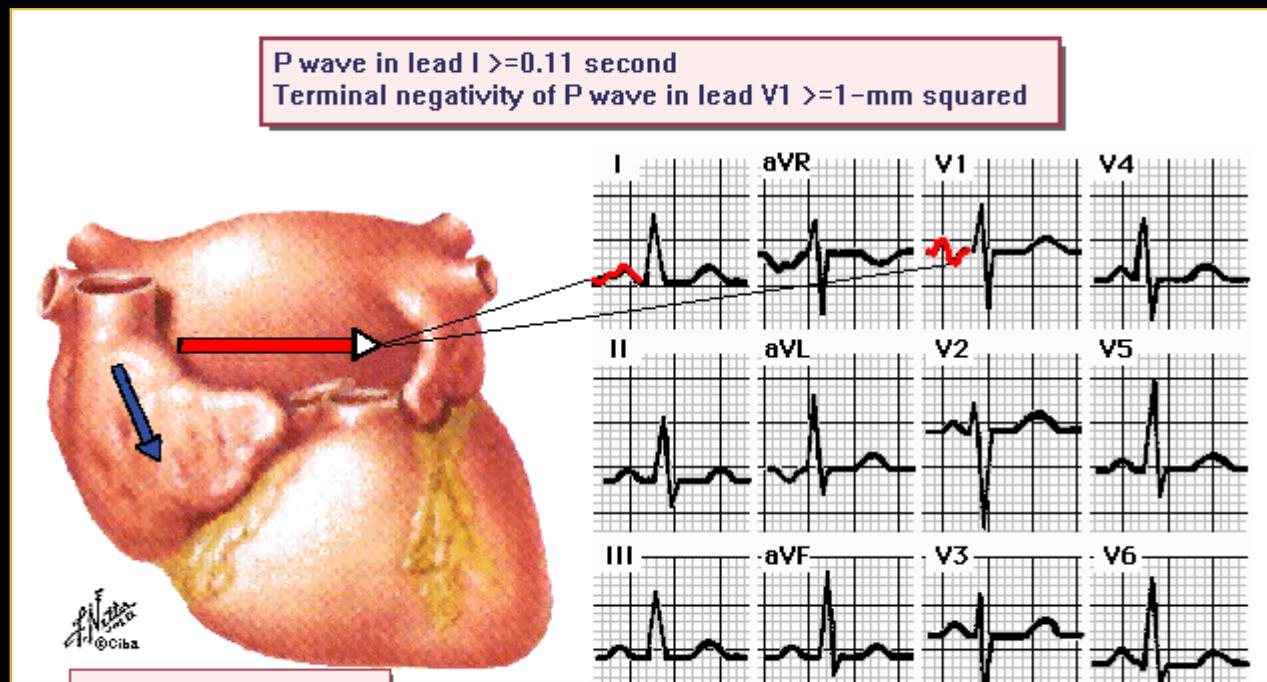
Right atrial enlargement  
Left atrial enlargement  
Right ventricular hypertrophy  
Left ventricular hypertrophy



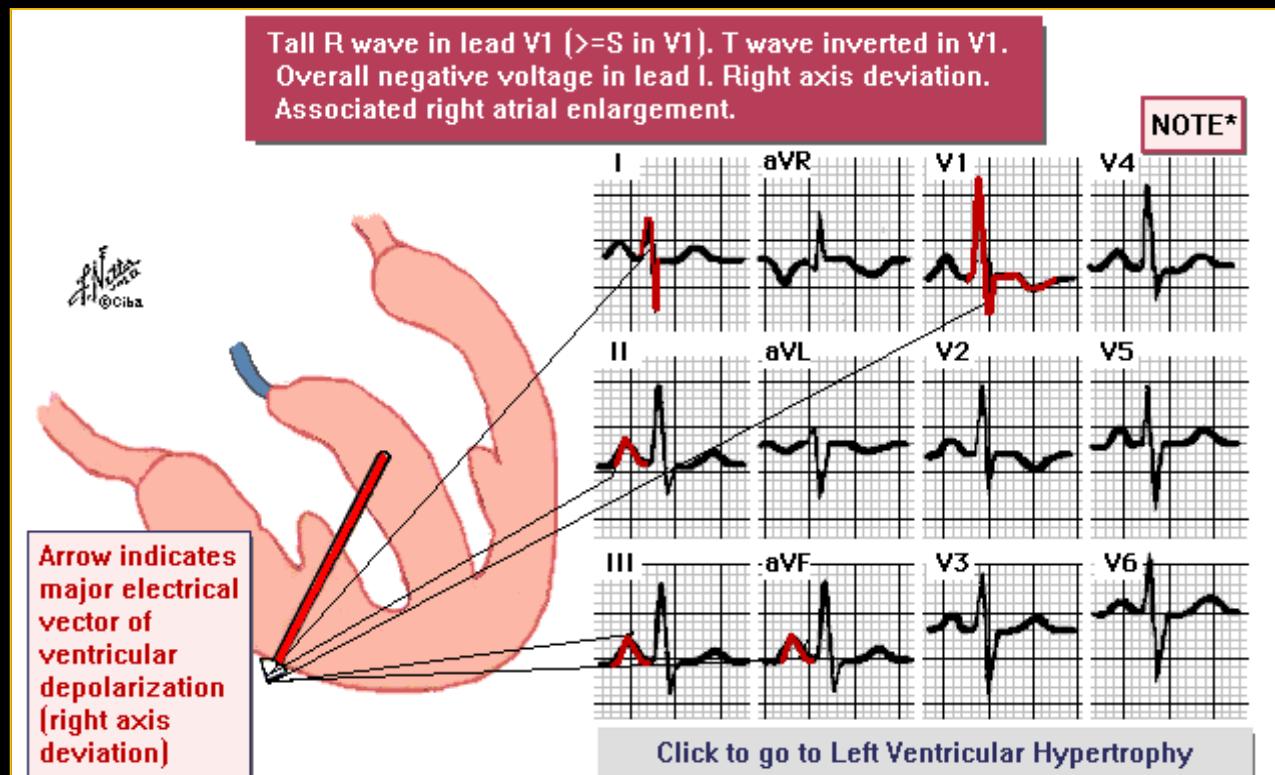
# Right atrial enlargement



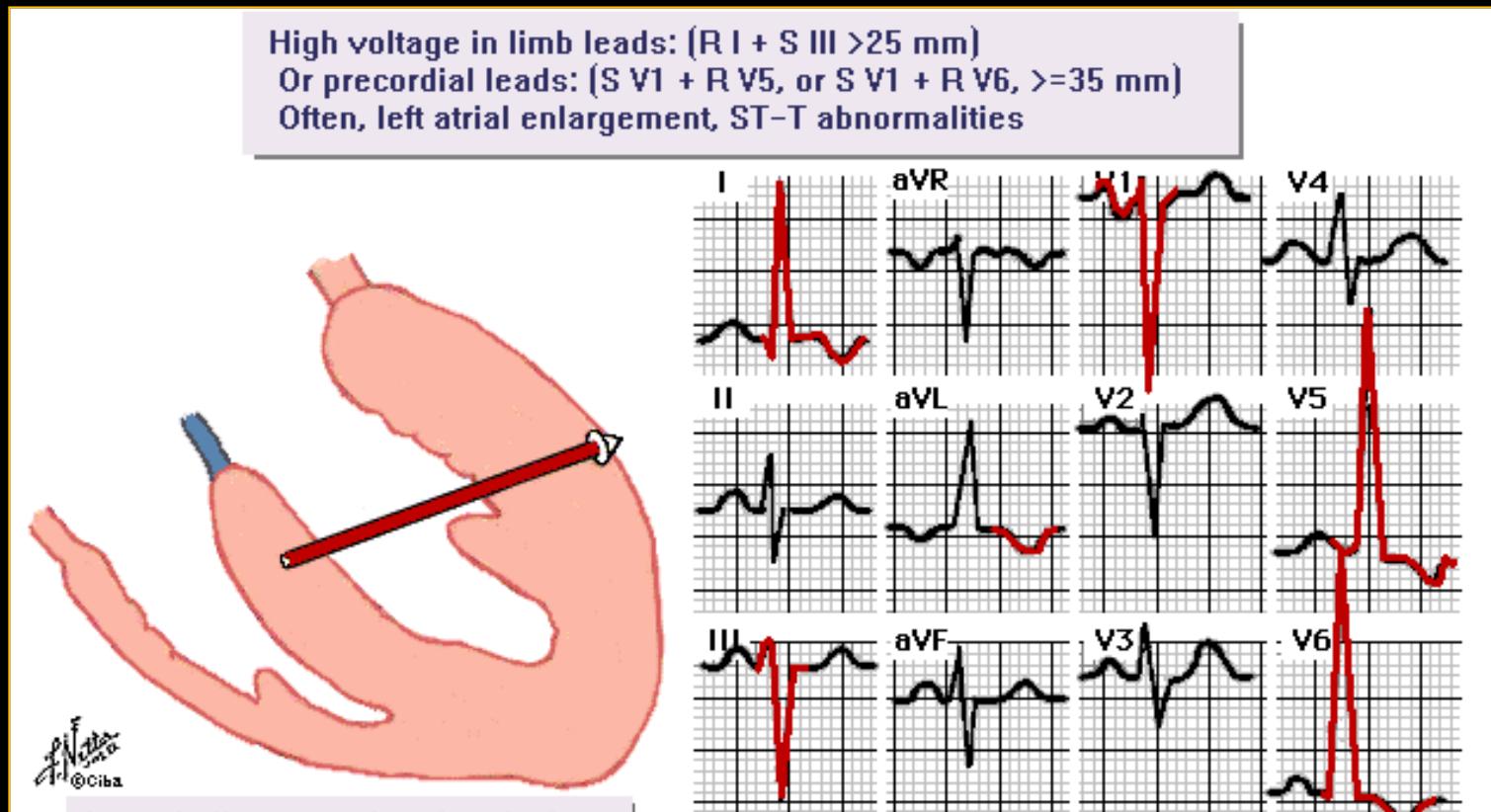
# Left atrial enlargement



# Right ventricular hypertrophy



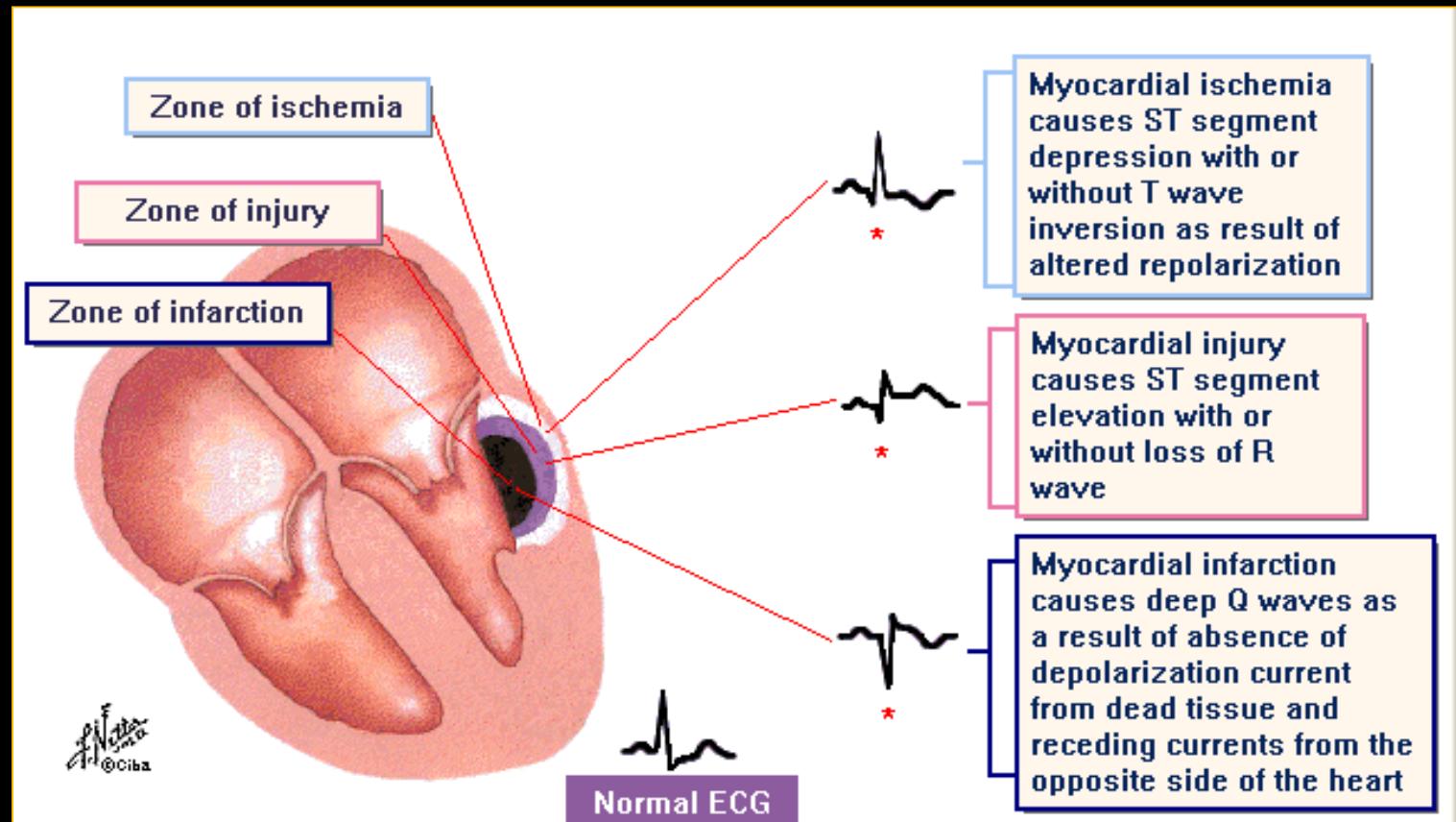
# Left ventricular hypertrophy





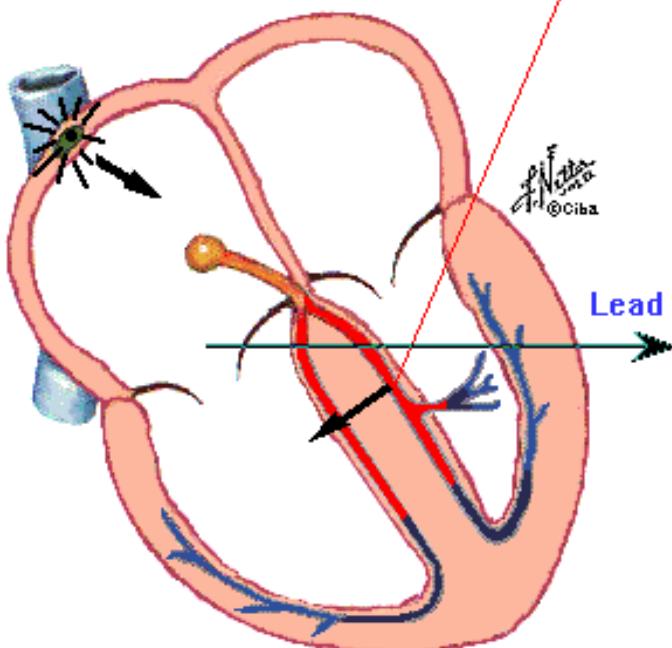
# VI- Myocardial ischemia and infarction

# Myocardial ischemia or injury or infarction



# Nonsignificant Q wave

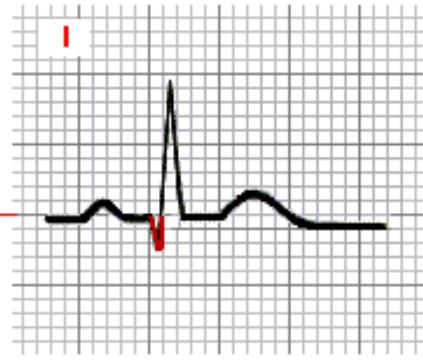
**Nonsignificant Q wave**



The diagram illustrates the heart's internal structures, focusing on the interventricular septum. A red line labeled "Lead I" indicates the direction of the electrical vector recorded in that lead. Arrows point from the text boxes to specific areas of the heart diagram.

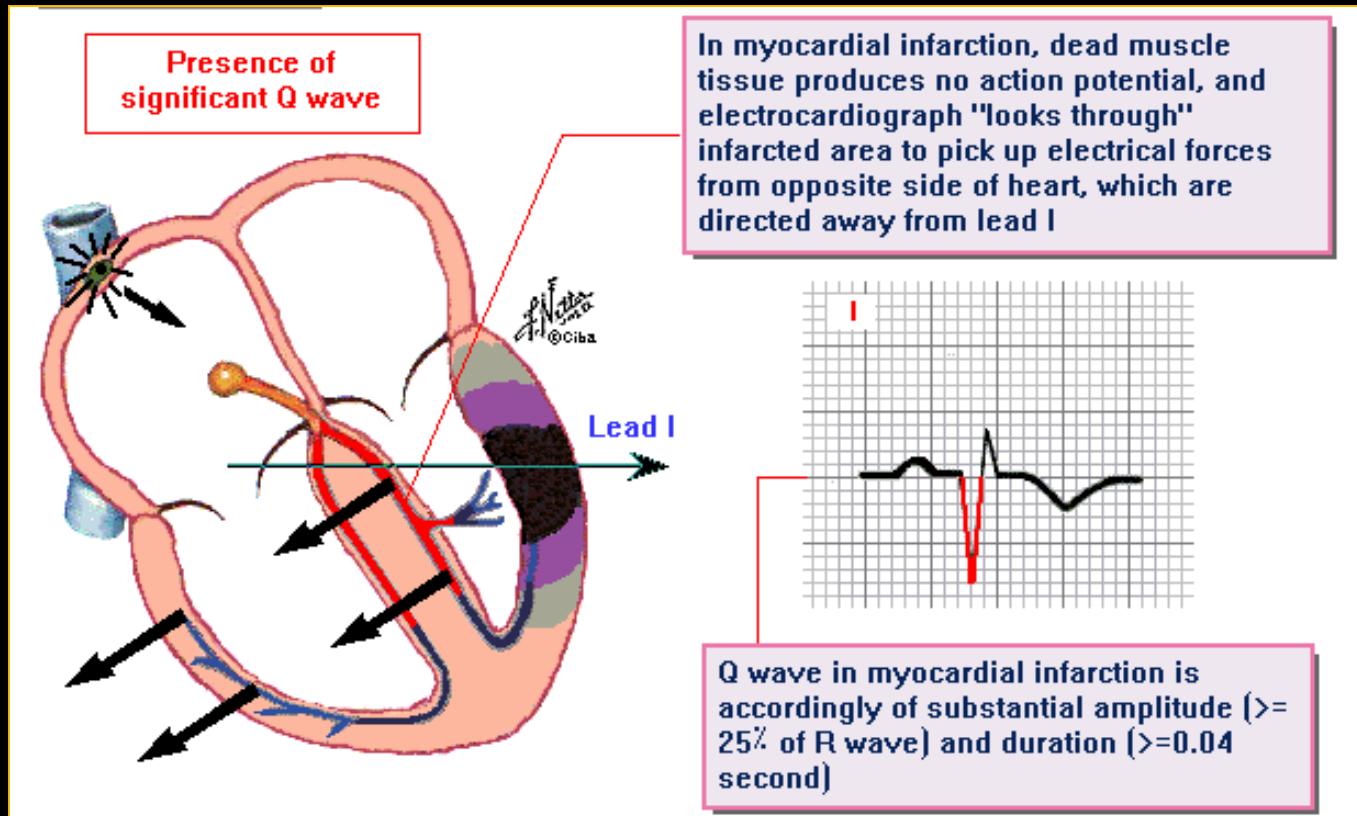
**Q wave is normally produced in lead I by initial depolarization of interventricular septum, with electrical vector directed to right and downward. Septum is relatively thin and depolarization occurs quickly, generating only small, short-lived**

**Resultant septal Q wave in lead I is of small amplitude (<25% of succeeding R wave) and short duration (<0.04 second, i.e., <1 small box on ECG tracing)**

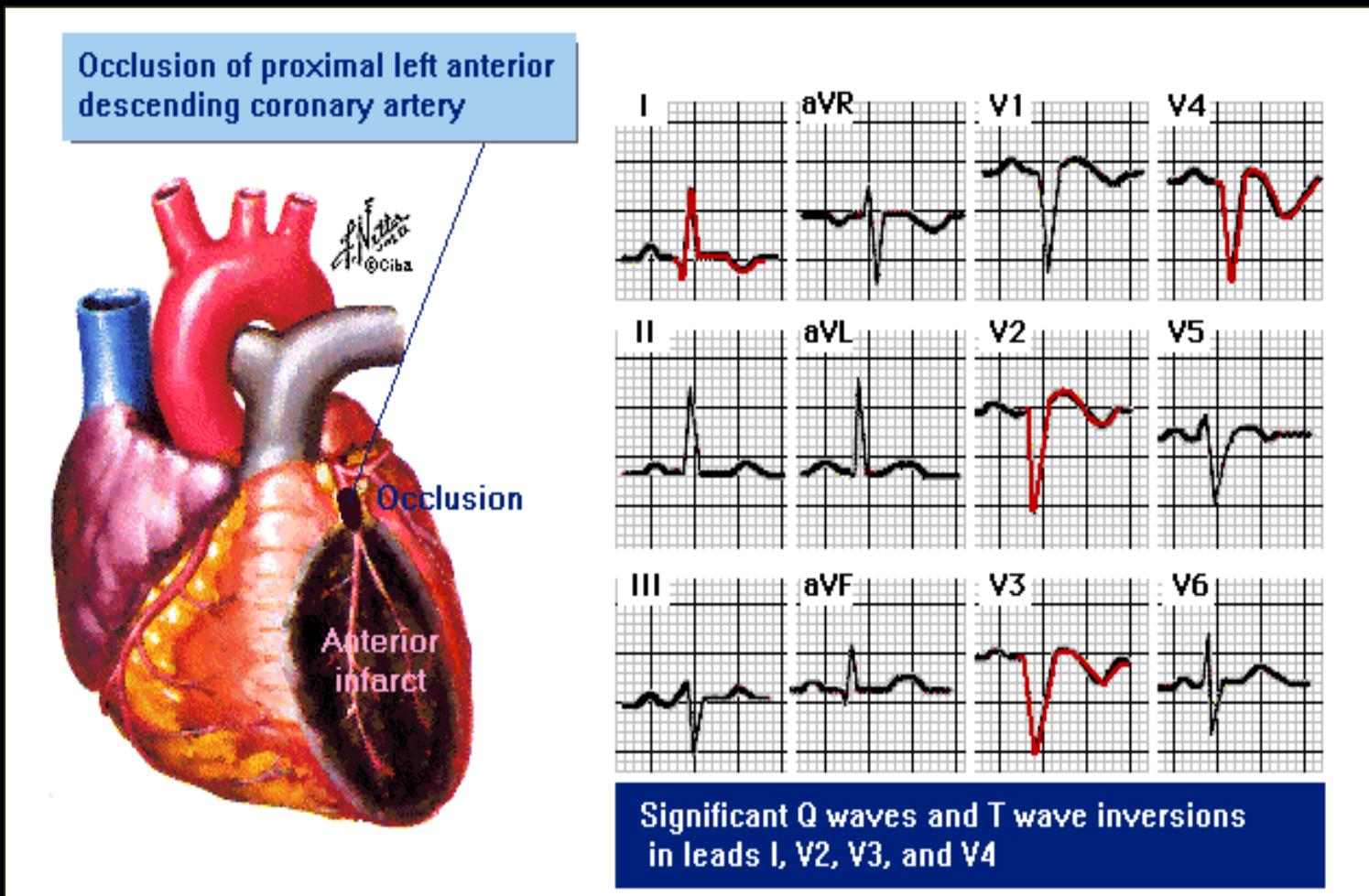


The ECG tracing shows a single lead labeled "I". It features a small, sharp downward deflection (the Q wave) immediately preceding a larger upward deflection (the R wave). The Q wave is significantly smaller than the R wave and has a very brief duration, consistent with the description of a nonsignificant Q wave.

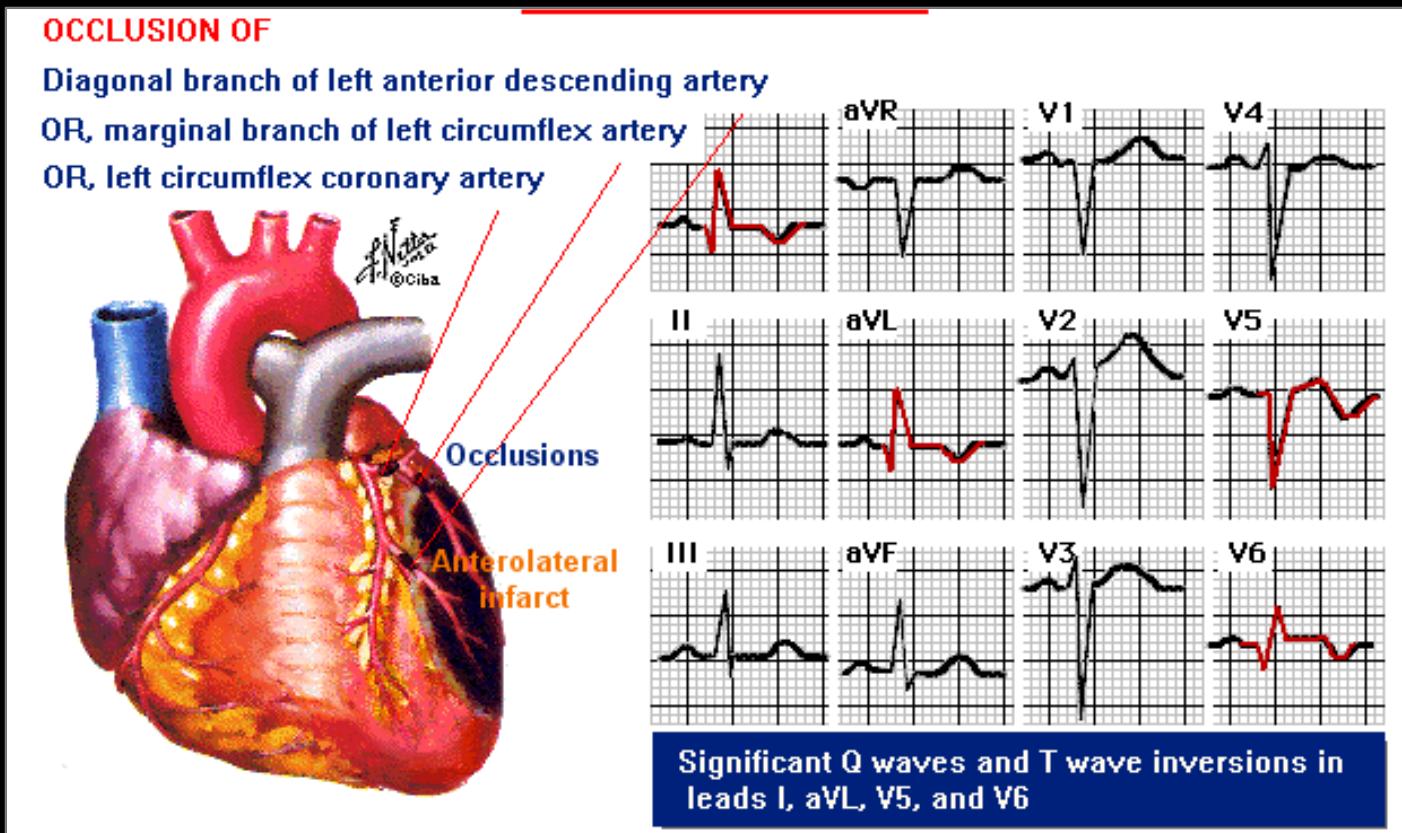
# Significant Q wave



# Localization of Infarction: Anterior infarction



# Localization of Infarction: Anterolateral infarction



# Localization of Infarction: Inferior infarction

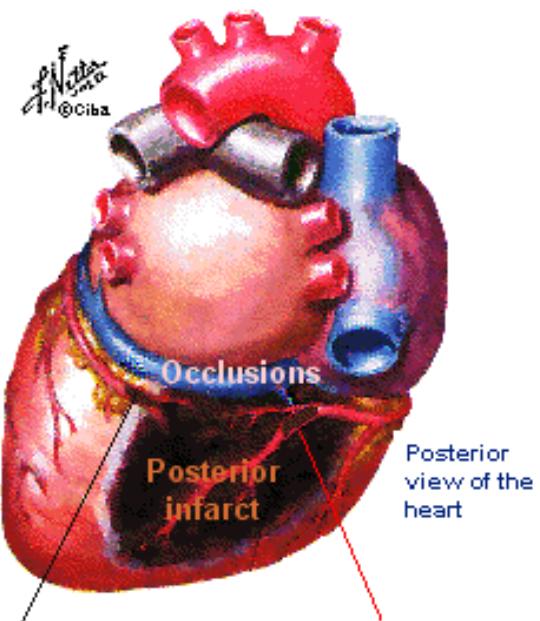
Occlusion of right coronary artery

The diagram shows a 3D rendering of a human heart. A blue line traces the course of the right coronary artery, which is shown to be occluded (blocked). The area of the heart supplied by this artery is shaded in yellow and labeled 'Inferior infarct'. The text 'Occlusion' is also present near the blocked artery. A small logo '©Ciba' is visible in the top right corner of the diagram area.

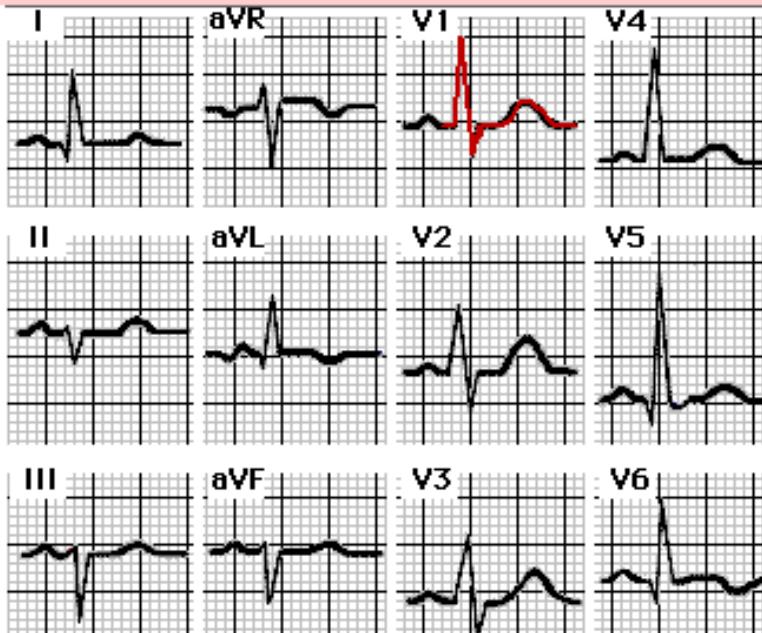
A 3x4 grid of ECG leads. The columns are labeled I, aVR, V1, V4 and the bottom row is labeled II, aVL, V2, V5. The top row (I, aVR, V1, V4) shows a normal sinus rhythm with no significant changes. The bottom row (II, aVL, V2, V5) shows significant findings: lead II has a prominent downward deflection (rS pattern), lead III has a deep downward deflection (qIII pattern), and lead aVF has a deep downward deflection (qIII pattern). The columns labeled V3 and V6 are partially visible at the bottom of the grid.

Significant Q waves and T wave inversions in leads II, III, and aVF. With lateral damage, changes also may be seen in leads V5 and V6.

## True Posterior Infarct



Since no ECG lead reflects posterior electrical forces, changes are reciprocal of those in anterior leads



Lead V1 shows unusually large R wave (reciprocal of posterior Q wave) and upright T wave (reciprocal of posterior T wave inversion)



Thank you